

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter



November 5, 2009
Vol. 43 Issue 11

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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

November's meeting will be the installation of the new officers. You will not want to miss greeting them and sharing a good time with them.

Club Officers for 2009

President: Donnette Wagner
 1st VP: Mark Carter, (972) 680-9223
 Secretary: Donna Mallory
 Treasurer: Don Shurtz, (972) 509-2821
 Editor: Anita Dresner (972) 475-5828
 E-mail: andresner@verizon.net

To Our President and Board of 2009

POGM Club

There comes a time each year when we as club members have the opportunity to elect new officers. For Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral this takes place with the election in October and the newly elected officers taking their office at our November meeting. At this time, we want to say thank you to Donnette for stepping up and being our president. This has not been a new experience for Donnette, for over the years she has served not only as president but in most all of the offices. To Mark Carter - 1st VP, Don Shurtz - Treasurer, and Donna Mallory – Secretary, thank you for serving in your capacity and for giving of your time.

It takes a dedicated person, one with a great love for our hobby, cause and the heart to serve, to stick around as long as these members have. Knowing it has been a deed of service and at times necessity; nonetheless, each of you have been here several times and have served POGM very well. While it is a must for each of us to serve in some capacity, it is time to see what Donnette will get involved in next. Thank you again Donnette, Mark, Don and Donna, for your servants heart and love of the gems, minerals, fossils and all mother earth offers up to us.

As Donnette has asked in the past and because it is inherit of each member to do, “please become part of the future of the Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club. This is a wonderful club and we need you to help us make sure that it has a great future”.

October 2009 Minutes

Donna Mallory, Secretary POGM Club

Not available for publishing at press time.

Welcome Aboard to 2010 Officers

As we install our new slate of 2010 Officers at our November meeting, we want to welcome them with open arms. Along with this welcome please know that we are all here to help make your job easier. Anything you need of us, please ask and we will certainly and eagerly do our best to assist you in any way we can.

Our 2010 Board of Officers are:

President:	Del Grady
1 st Vice President:	Mark Carter
2 nd Vice President:	Kirby Manley (Field Trip Co-ordinator)
Secretary:	Lee (Leanda) Elms
Treasurer:	Don Shurtz

The member of Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral are so lucky to have volunteers that are eager to serve. We thank you for your volunteering and taking your time to serve in these respective offices. Congratulations! And again, welcome aboard.



The Tasty Corner

Editor POGM Club

Wonderful Apple Pie

Two layers of tasty streusel, sandwich apple slices in this deep dish pie that serves 8.

Prep Time: 20 minutes. Cook Time: 1 hour 10 minutes



Ingredients:

1 cup Light Brown Sugar (packed) ½ cup Flour
1 ½ tsp McCormick® Apple Pie Spice ⅓ cup Butter (cold)
1 Deep Dish Pie Crust (9- or 10-inch)
6-8 med Cooking Apples, peeled and thinly sliced (about 8 cups)

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Mix brown sugar, flour and apple pie spice in medium bowl. Cut in butter with pastry blender or 2 knives until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Sprinkle about 1/3 of streusel mixture over bottom of unbaked pie crust.
2. Layer sliced apples in pie crust. Spoon the remaining streusel mixture over apples. Place pie on baking sheet.
3. Bake 1 hour and 10 minutes or until apples are tender and streusel is golden brown. Cool on wire rack.

Nutritional Information:

per serving: Calories: 383, Fat: 15 g, Carbohydrates: 59 g, Cholesterol: 20 mg, Sodium: 178 mg, Fiber: 2 g, Protein: 3 g

Editor's Corner

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Have you looked out your window lately? The window panes of the house, the car window, or watching out the window on the bus as you make your way around the town. Wow! What a glorious and beautiful picture has been painted for our enjoyment. As I travel along my street alone, I see those trees which are still green; but whoa, just past it there is a fantastic collection of gold, and then. Just as I turn the corner and the view down the street it is awesome; one cannot help but love and enjoy the beginning of the change of seasons. You cannot paint such a grand picture, not one which turns your head and your thoughts of years, seasons, and memories from the past. You know, the time and years, and seasons you took for granted.



Just to see the shades of green, the hues of reddish bronze, and the awesome gold colors, turns your head to those exciting Halloweens of yesteryear, the frolicking and laughing. Then, our memory leads us into our young adulthood, preparing family holiday feasts; Thanksgiving dinners of the orange colored pumpkin pies, red glistening cranberries, not to mention the golden and brown hues of that magnificent bird on the table. It is super to experience the gathering of family, catching up on their lives, even remembering those gone ahead of us. Yes, life is sometimes bitter sweet; but, the taste of sweet is far more often than the bitter.

Ahh, but life, God, Mother Earth, provide so good for each us. We only need to stop and take it all in. All the color, all the fun, food and family they have sent our way, is such a blessing. May you experience all the changes this season at home and work, also in the club. Welcome to another fantastic year sharing with one another, and keep building memories.

Refreshment Volunteers

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

<u>Month</u>	<u>Ice & Drinks</u>	<u>Snacks</u>
<i>November</i>	<i>Mark Carter</i>	<i>Kirby Manley</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>Christmas</i>	<i>Pot Luck</i>
<i>January</i>	<i>Please Volunteer</i>	<i>Lee Elms</i>

Question of the Month: Catahoula Formation

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks G&MC

What is the Catahoula Formation?

Have you ever looked at the Geology of Texas poster provided by the Texas Bureau of Economic Geology? You probably have, but the name may not ring a bell. So think of a map of Texas – it has no roads although several big cities are identified and the county boundaries are depicted (but without county names). It has a series of colors bands and blobs which depict the age of the rocks at the surface – they are more like blobs in the panhandle and far west of Texas, but like uniform bands as you go from the Hill Country to the east and southeast. The oldest rocks in Texas come from the Pre-Cambrian epoch and are dated 1200 to 2000 million years old. The Pre-Cambrian exposure of rocks is associated with the Llano uplift area. The youngest geological features and rocks are from the Quaternary epoch and are less than 2 million years old. These are found along the Gulf coast.

The Catahoula Formation is a sub-division of the Tertiary epoch and dates to 38 million years ago. So what is the significance of the Catahoula Formation? Petrified Wood, including lots of Petrified Palm Wood! The Catahoula Formation basically follows a thin band parallel to the Gulf coast from the Toledo Bend Reservoir past Sam Rayburn Reservoir to just north of Huntsville and past Falls City ending to the east of Zapata. If you were going to look for petrified palm wood, starting in the Catahoula Formation would be a good place to start. You could also look along the river beds that flow through the formation and wash the rocks on down to the Gulf of Mexico. The Toledo Bend and Sam Rayburn Reservoirs are well know to those who hunt petrified palm wood.

The Catahoula Formation does not begin and end in Texas. It extends southward into Mexico and easterly into Louisiana and beyond. Most of the petrified palm wood in Louisiana is also associated with the Catahoula Formation.

So, if you were going to hunt petrified palm wood in Texas, a good place to start would be at the Texas Bureau of Geology Book Store at <http://www.texasmapstore.com/>. Look in the navigation tab to the left side of the page for Earth Sciences and Topo Maps. I ordered one a couple of years ago for less than \$10; but, the current price is \$27.95 and well worth every penny of it.

A Different Kind of Rock Show

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Oklahoma Mennonite Relief Sale: November 6 & 7; Garfield County Fairgrounds, Enid, OK (Handmade Items, Quilts, Rocks and loads of other goodies, I am told. (ad). Event Contact: Don Gerbrandt; Phone: 580-234-3247; E-mail: donair@suddenlink.net; Website: <http://www.mcc.org/reliefsales/>

Show Dates

November 2009

7-TUCSON, AZ: 8th Annual Silent Auction; Old Pueblo Lapidary Club; 3118 N Dale; Sat 9-2 pm; Free Admission; contact Danny Harmsen, (520) 323-9154

7-8--AMARILLO, TX: Golden Spread Gem & Mineral Society Show; Amarillo Civic Center, 401 S Buchanan; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; dealers, demonstrations, exhibits, door prizes, wheel of fortune, silent auction, 43-pound sapphire display; contact Dee Hawkins, 108 S Polk Street, Amarillo, TX 79101, (806) 681-0960

7-8--OKLAHOMA CITY, OK: "River of Gems"; Oklahoma Mineral & Gem Society Show; Oklahoma State Fairpark, 3001 General Pershing Blvd; Sat 9-6, Sun 9-5; Adults \$6, Children 12 & under, & Boy/Girl Scouts/Campfire members in uniform Free with adult; museum & member exhibits, dealers, minerals, cabochons, faceted stones, findings, demonstrations, wirewrapping, silversmithing, knapping; contact Arlene Burkhalter, 1267 Kingbird Lane, Choctaw, OK 73020, (405) 732-0808; e-mail: maburkhalter@cox.net

7-8-MIDLAND, TX: 47th Annual Show; Midland Gem & Mineral Society; Midland Center, 105 N Main Street (corner of Wall & Main); Sat 9-6; Sun 10-5; dealers, demonstrations, exhibits, silent auction, kids' corner, geode

13-15-HUMBLE, TX: 56th Annual Show; Houston Gem & Mineral Society; Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy; Fri & Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; Adults \$7, Seniors/Students \$6, Children under 12 free; displays, gems, minerals, fossils, fluorescent rocks display; demonstrations, jewelry making, beading, lapidary, children's activities, Scout Merit badge program, famous "Dino Dig", jewelry, minerals, fossils; contact Patty Scott, 14906 Summerland Circle, Cypress, TX 77429, (281) 373-1578; e-mail: nigels_mom@sbcglobal.net; Website: www.hgms.org

13-15-TULSA, OK: Bead Renaissance Shows (Retail & Wholesale); Expo Square, Exchange Center, 4145 E 21st Street; Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; free admission; bead artists, dealers, ancient, vintage, contemporary and designer beads, jewelry, tools, books; contact J&J Promotions LLC, PO Box 420, Williamsburg, NM 87942, (575) 894-1293; e-mail: beadshow@aol.com; Website: www.beadshow.com

13-15-PASCAGOULA, MS: 19th Annual "Magnolia State Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show"; Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society; Civic Center Bldg, Jackson County Fairgrounds; Fri & Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5; Free Admission, children accompanied by Adults welcome; educational, artistic & scientific exhibits, lapidary demonstrations, 20 dealers, jewelry, gemstones, beads, slabs, lapidary tools & supplies; contact John M Wright, 3304 Notthingham Road, Ocean Springs, MS 39564 (228) 875-9192; email: osjw@datasync.com

21-22-MESQUITE, TX: 52nd Annual Dallas Gem & Mineral Show: The World of Rocks; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; 1818 Rodeo Drive, Mesquite, TX; contact Darrell Harrison, PO Box 742033, Dallas, TX 75374-2033; email: Bravo1bravo@sbcglobal.net; Website: www.dallasgemandmineralshow.com

20-22-ALBUQUERQUE, NM: Retail & Wholesale Bead Renaissance Shows; New Mexico State Fairgrounds, 300 San Pedro; Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; Free Admission; bead artists, dealers, ancient, vintage, contemporary & designer beads, jewelry, tools, books; contact J&J Promotions LLC, PO Box 420, Williamsburg, NM 87942, (575) 894-1293; e-mail: beadshow@aol.com; Website: www.beadshow.com

27-29-TERLINGUA, TX: "Rock & Gem Fest Show"; Chihuahuan Desert Gem & Mineral Club; Big Bend Motor Inn Conference Room, Rte 118 & Rte 170; Fri 12-6, Sat 9-6, Sun 9-5; Free Admission; dealers, rocks, gems, jewelry, Kids' Corner; contact Mary Brogan, PO Box 1111, Alpine, TX 79831, (432) 837-3824; e-mail: marybrogan@rocketmail.com; Website: www.agates123.com/cdgmcc

December 2009

4-6-KENNER, LA: AKS Gem Shows; Pontchartrain Center, 4545 Williams Blvd; Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4; Adults \$5; classes in beading, PMC, chainmaille, and more, contact Kay Schabilion, (504) 455-6101; e-mail: info@aksshow.com; Website: www.aksshow.com

5-6-ROUND ROCK, TX: "Fossil Fest" Show; Paleontological Society of Austin; Old Settler's Heritage Association, 3300 E Palm Valley Boulevard; Sat 9-5, Sun 9-4; Adults \$2, Children \$1; Grand Door Prize, Fossil Dealers, specimens from around the world, fossil exhibits, demonstrations, special youth group presentation, "Wheel of Fossils", fossil identification; contact Linda McCall, 29617 Evans Lane, Highland, CA 92346, (512) 422-2322; email: lndmccall02@yahoo.com; Website: www.texaspaleo.com/psa/fest.html

12-13-DERIDDER, LA: DeRidder Gem & Mineral Society Show; Beauregard Parish Fair Exhibit Hall, 610 West Drive; Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4; Adults \$2, military with current ID & Children under 12 Free; door prizes, jewelry, gems, cabs, wire wrapping, Louisiana opal, silent auction, hands-on instructions in flint knapping, cab making, gem faceting; contact Adam Valin, (337) 585-3693; e-mail: avalin1@bellsouth.net

January 2010

16-17-FREDERICKSBURG, TX: "Hill Country Gem & Mineral Show"; Fredericksburg Rockhounds; Pioneer Pavilion, Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park, 1606 S Hwy 16, south of downtown Fredericksburg; Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; Free Admission; Rollin' Rock meeting Sun, hourly door prizes; contact Jeff Smith, 208 Castle Pines Drive, Kerrville, TX 78028, (830) 895-9630; e-mail: jeffbrenda@windstream.net; Web site: www.fredericksburgrockhounds.org

February 2010

1-28-QUARTZSITE, AZ: "Desert Gardens International Gem & Mineral Show" Wholesale & Retail; Desert Gardens RV Park; 1064 Kuehn Road, south side of I-10, along frontage road; 9-6 daily; Free Admission; crystals, minerals, rough, polished, jewelry; contact Sharon or Sandy, Desert Gardens RV Park, 1055 Kuehn Street, PO Box 2818, Quartzsite, AZ 85346, (928) 927-6361; e-mail: info@desertgardensrvpark.net; Website: www.desertgardensrvpark.net

November's Birthstone

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Citrine is believed to help the heart, kidney, digestive tract, liver and muscles. It promotes creativity, helps personal clarity and eliminates self-destructive tendencies. The gemstone Citrine is the official birthstone for the month of November as adopted by the American National Association of Jewelers in 1912. It is also the Planetary stone for the Sun Sign of Virgo and the accepted gem for the 13th and 17th wedding anniversary. See the birthstone tables for additional references to this stone or citrine jewelry.



Citrine is a variety of quartz ranging in colors of yellow, yellow-brown, orange, dark orange-brown, reddish-brown. Citrine crystals can form together with amethyst or smoky quartz to form a bi-colored quartz called ametrine. Almost all citrine that is available on the market today is heat-treated amethyst. Natural citrine is pale yellow to pale orange, much lighter than the heat-treated material which is dark orange-brown to reddish-brown. All of the heat-treated material has a red tint, while natural citrine does not. Some amethyst deposits have been found where the amethyst was changed naturally by high temperatures to brown citrine.

Most citrine comes from Brazil, but almost all of the Brazilian material is heat-treated amethyst. Natural citrine can also be found in the Ural Mountains of Russia, in Dauphine, France, and in Madagascar. The inexpensive low grade amethyst is heated at high temperatures to produce the popular orange, reddish and sherry colored citrine. Darker colors are considered more valuable, including the medium golden orange and dark sherry-colors. Citrine may be mistaken for the more expensive orangish-yellow topaz and, at times, may be sold as topaz by dishonest gemstone vendors. Due to this, citrine buyers are sometimes suspicious of any citrine and think it may actually be fake topaz.

Citrine is a 7.0 on the Mohs scale of hardness.

Reference: <http://www.bernardine.com/gemstones/citrine.htm>

Picture: http://www.paraibainternational.com/product_info.php?product=2860

What is a Rock Hound?

Wikipedia: Rockhounding is the recreational collecting of rocks and/or mineral specimens from their natural environment. Alright, I agree with Wikipedia about what a rockhound is except it should also be noted that not only do people hunt for the beauty of rocks, another reason people hunt themselves is that it is sheer fun to do the collecting yourself. That is one reason I have not bought rocks. Because I remember where I picked up most of my rocks; whether with friends or alone, which vacation etc.

I think those are some of the "treasures".

Pam

Reference: <http://cash-and-treasures-wiki.travelchannel.com/thread/1566102/What%27s+A+Rockhound%3F>

Posted Jun 13 2008, 5:54 PM EDT

Area Clubs

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club, Garland Women's Bldg., 713 Austin, Garland, meets the 1st Thursday 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 Paleontological Society, Dallas Museum of Natural History, Fair Park, meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm
Dallas Gem & Mineral Society, Ridgewood Rec. Center, 6818 Fisher Road, Dallas, meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm
Dallas Bead Society, Walnut Hill Rec Center, NW corner Walnut Hill & Midway, Dallas, meets 3rd Thursday each month at 7:30 pm
Oak Cliff Gem & Mineral Society, Renaissance Hospital, 2929 S. Hampton Road, Dallas, TX, meets 4th Tuesday each month at 7 pm
Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club, 3545 Bryan Avenue, Fort Worth, TX, meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm

Featured Article

Submitted by Wanda Fitzgerald, Member POG&M

Conularids: the Mystery Fossil

Conularids are a group of enigmatic fossils that have no known living analogue. They were once in existence as can be substantiated by their remaining fossils, but have been extinct for millions of years. It has been estimated their existence lasted from the late Cambrian era through the Paleozoic era, and ending in the Permian period, or through to the end of “Old Life” era, referencing the geologic time scale.

They have been described as an inverted, four-sided pyramid. From their fossils, it has been estimated they at one time had a single strand protruding from the pointed end of their conical/pyramidal shape, which attached to the substrate. On the top of the inverted pyramid were tentacles that splayed outward, from which to gather nourishment. Although, very little is known as to how they gathered sustenance from which to survive. The main body was evenly spaced with cross-ribbed ornamentation. Several divisions or lines run the length of the body. It is estimated their surface may have a tooth-enamel like texture because of the remaining fossil composition being mainly chitinophosphate. Specimens found ranged 2” to 4” in length. The internals of the Conularid may have had thickenings or septa developed, but even this statement cannot be definite. It is also speculated that they were able to bend along the mid-line that ran lengthwise down the specimen.

Although they are thought to have thin skeletons composed of chitin, some have classified them in their own phylum in the scyphozoan coelenterates. Little is known of their mode of transportation. Some say they attached themselves and were carried along, and some would even go so far to say that they had the capacity of self-propulsion or swimming. It may also be said that they were filter feeders and often lived in groups. The process of their reproduction is not known.

Generally speaking, these organisms have been classed among the Cnidarians, then sub classed into their own phylum. Some believe because of the remains of some of the softer parts of the organism, they should in fact be classified as part of the coelomates. William G Sinclair is world renowned for his knowledge on the Conularids. It is quite amazing; one who was credited with one dinosaur discovery was also the world’s authority on the very elusive, enigmatic, extinct life form of the Conularids. Only nature can know the true fit in the ecological chain of events, but for now the mystery fossil will continue to be a mystery to man.

Glossary of Terms:

Coelenterates: A class of jelly fish and Coral Sea anemones

Chitin: A horny polysaccharide which forms part of the hard outer integument, especially of insects, arachnids and crustaceans.

Substrate: The base on which an organism lives.

Bibliography:

A Field Guide to Fossils of Texas, Charles E Finsley, Gulf Pbl Co Bk Div.1996;

Simon & Schuster Guide to Fossils, Simon & Schuster/Fireside Books. Simon & Schuster Inc. Rockefeller Cntr New York, NY

Fossils, The Evolution and Extinction of Species, Harry M Abrams. Harry N Abrams, Inc, Publishers. New York, NY 1991

The Field Guide to Prehistoric Life, David Lambert & The Diagram Group. Diagram Visual Information LTD 1994

“Porifera & Cnidaria”, <http://www.geo.arizona.edu/geo3xx/308/por.cnid.html>

“Animal Fossils”, <http://www.earthsea.org/remnants/r-2-3-2-0.html>.

“Phylum Cnidaria(Coelenterata)”, <http://www.plu.edu/~benhamsr/page14.html>

“The Conulariida”, <http://ucmp.berkeley.edu/cnidaria/conulariida.html>

“Order, Class, or Phylum Condulariida”, <http://www.kheper.auz.com/~roblematica/conulariida/Conulariida.html>

“Miscellaneous Fossil Groups”, <http://www.paleo.cortland.edu/tutorial/misc%20fossils/miscfossils.html>

“GSC’S Dinosaur Hunters”, <http://www.stfx.ca/people/paleodiv/Hunters/Hunters.html>

“Miscellaneous Invertebrate Fossils-Conularia perglabra & pristeroceras timidum.”

<http://hanmansfossils.com/catalogs/fossils/invertebrates/invert5.shtml>



Conularid; collected by Joseph Hall, Pennsylvanian (Virgilian): Finis Shale, Lake Jacksboro, TX mm scale

CHIPS AND CHATTER
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2nd place SCFMS 2003 small bulletins

November 5, 2009 7:30 PM, 713 Austin, Garland Women's Bldg, TX

**Pleasant Oak Gem & Mineral
Club Meeting**

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)

Affiliated with

American Federation of Mineral Societies

Member of

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies