

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter

October 7, 2010
Vol. 44, Issue 10

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

Presentation

Opal Show and Tell

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 Address under Editors Pen
 E-mail: anitadresner@rocketmail.com

Chips and Chatter Deadline:
The 3rd Thursday of each month

September 2, 2010 Minutes from the Secretary

POGM Secretary: Lee Elms

The meeting was called to order at 7:53pm by President Del Grady; Warner led us in the Pledge to the Flag.

Secretary Report: The minutes of the August meeting in the Chips and Chatter were approved as written.

Treasurers' Report: from Don Shurtz was stated and approved.

Sunshine Report: Warner's wife Cindy is having trouble getting around again.

Old Business: Don Shurtz bought the club a new projector. It is an Epson Multi-Mate DVD projector. He stated we need to buy a "dedicated" extension cord for the projector, a power strip with surge protector and a microphone.

Election Committee: Mark will have the list next month of the people running for officers for 2011.

New Business: Mark said we should start up our "show and tell" table again for the upcoming meetings. We will start next month with opals.

Shows of Interest: The Arlington Show is this weekend. The DeRidder, Louisiana show is coming up. InterGem Show at Market Hall is coming up in October.

Visitors: We had two visitors Cassandra and Randall. Cassandra is an artist and she sculpts with rocks.

Raffle Table tickets were sold and we had our refreshment break.

Program: Our program was a DVD that Mark had of a noted gem dealer Gary Bowersox. He travels to Afghanistan to buy the gems that the miners dig out of the mountains. The DVD showed us the dangers he has to go through to get these gems. He has to dodge Afghan rebels, and the hazardous journey of treacherous mountain trails to get to the gem mines. And once he is at the mines, he has to be careful of neighbor miners dynamiting their mine while he is in a mine close by! We got to see some of the veins of Lapis, Emerald, Rubies, Sapphire, Aquamarine, Tourmaline, Spinel, Morganite, and Amethyst.

After the program ended we had our raffle and the meeting was adjourned.

Editor's Pen

C&C Editor, Anita Dresner

I want to encourage you for input into the *Chips and Chatter*. After all, it is your newsletter. You may submit questions you would like answered about any rock, gem, or mineral or fossil, we may even have someone that can get the answer for you. If you have a question, I am almost sure another member has the same question. Or, why not tell us about your summer trip/s, local or at a distance. Sharing is what it is all about rock hounds. You may also contribute with your article/s by sending them through email me at: anitadresner@rocketmail.com or snail mail to: 3809 Skyline Drive, Rowlett, TX 75088

1st Vice President's Messages

POGM 1st VP- Programs: Mark Carter

Program

The October program will be a "Show and Tell" on Opals. If you have any opal gems, rough, or jewelry, bring it to the meeting and show it off. It is always to see the nature of the stone be it in raw form or a completed piece of art work in jewelry.

Refreshments

 <u>Oct</u> - Snacks ?????	<u>Refreshment Volunteers</u>	
 <u>Nov</u> Snacks.....	<u>Oct</u> - Ice & Drinks ????	
	<u>Nov Ice & Drinks</u>	

Editor comment; if you have not signed up for refreshments please do so. If you have signed up thank you! If anyone has the sign-up sheet and could please email or snail mail the list to me it would be of great help. My address is 3809 Skyline Dr, Rowlett TX, 75088 Thank You, Anita Dresner

AFMS Alert

Don Shurtz; POGM Treasurer

AFMS Banquet Awards is in December. Some of us will be attending. Do you plan to go to the convention? Ling and I will be going by RV, leaving on Friday prior to the show and returning Sunday, catching a night's rest rather than driving back that late in the evening. It is just over 300 miles, so it will not be a short drive.

Local Shows of Interest

C&C Editor

We invite you to join us on the Trinity River scenic banks for this event.

LMRA Annual Rockfest, Oct 9th & 10th, 2010, 10am - 5pm
3400 Bryant Irvin Road, Ft Worth, TX 76109

This is a Lapidary & Jewelry Show which appears will be a treat to take in. LMRA Annual Rockfest (Flint, Rock-Gem-Mineral-Jewelry Sale) being held along with LMRA annual Model Railroader's Show & Pottery in the Park Show & Sale. e-mail: steve.l.shearin@lmco.com.

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 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, meets 3rd Thur. each month at 7:30 pm Address pending
Oak Cliff Gem & Min Soc, **South Hampton Community Hospital**, 2929 S. Hampton Rd, Dls, TX, 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), 2nd Wed. ea. month at 7:30 pm

Article of Interest - Computer Security

Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club Member: Don Shurtz

Is your computer protected? What does that really mean? For a long while I thought computer security was an Anti-Virus program. A computer virus is only one of many forms of computer malware – a short name for malicious software. In addition to viruses are worms, Trojan horses, spyware, adware, and probably a million other forms of malware. For emails there is also SPAM, phishing, spoofing, and bombing to name a few more.

How do viruses and other forms of malware get around? For years they traveled on disks which we loaded into our computer (new software, neat pictures from our friends, etc). Now, they generally hitch a ride on an email, especially an one with an enclosure, or on the Internet. Anti-virus program may catch them, especially the newer programs which monitor incoming mail and Internet files. What if the virus is hidden in a file? Your anti-virus software may declare the file as safe as you downloaded it, but you open it and a little built in un-encoding program unscrambles the virus and BINGO – you're had. My recommendation, if you get email with attachments you were not expecting, delete the email. Be careful of emails forwarded from a friend – a long list of forwards will lead you back to sources you do not know. Phishing is another matter. A legitimate looking email arrives and asks you to log on to a site which looks like a legitimate site (www.bankovamerica.com instead of www.bankofamerica.com) or wants you to "verify" you account. Do it and WHAM, you're had again. Do not (repeat – DO NOT) follow links in email, especially if you were not expecting an email from that source. Log on to your account; use your own links and passwords. If a source wants verification of your credit card information or to discuss a suspicious purchase, call the number on the back of your credit card and talk to the customer service representative. DO NOT use the number in the email or they got you again. Not too long ago, a Dallas area club member got an email to verify her email account information (I get these about twice a month). The email threatened to shut down her account if she did not comply; it all seemed legitimate. Using the link provided she verified her account, a few days later, everyone in her address book received a message she was in England; all her money and credit cards were stolen, please help, send money. Well, she wasn't in England, nothing had been stolen, but money was wired to the account and it all disappeared. Even though these web sites and emails can be awfully convincing, it really comes down to just using common sense; be suspicious and question everything. It is easier to click delete; if there is a real problem someone will contact you in person.

I thought an anti virus program was all I needed for security. Most anti-virus programs protect your computer from worms and viruses; they may not protect you from everything. For example, anti-virus programs will not protect your computer from "hackers" gaining access to your computer. If a hacker is successful, he has access of all information on your computer. Your file of credit card, bank account numbers, or passwords may be of interest to a hacker. To prevent someone from hacking in, a good "firewall" is necessary. A firewall monitors and controls data, incoming and outgoing over your network – if it looks suspicious, the firewall will generally block the access until you authorize the access.

Make sure your anti-virus program is checking incoming mail; a lot of malware comes in via email. If offered money or something else, don't be surprised if you receive a virus, adware or spyware. Be advised; if you respond, you are going to be inundated with a lot more of the same, from the same company and many other companies who bought your prime email address (prime because you responded) from the original source. A good thing to have is a SPAM or JUNK mail detector. It may take a while to train your JUNK mail program, but they filter out a lot. My GMAIL account receives 30+ pieces of junk mail for every valid email. My junk mail program catches more than 90 % of it so I receive only one or two pieces of junk mail a week. Once I recognize it as junk, I mark it and I am not bothered by that email address again. I thought my anti-virus program was enough; a windows firewall (not the best, but not bad), SPAM and JUNK mail protection on my email. Last year, I bought an Internet Security program (watch the big electronic and computer company advertisements (they often have free anti-virus and/or Internet security programs after rebates). Last month, our club's website was "stolen". Someone recognized the FTP software stream I was using to update the newsletter and added a few more files to the stream. When I next logged into our site, because of the Internet security program, my computer refused to load the site, indicating the site was re-directed to a known malicious site. Checking with our provider, they confirmed our site was re-directed to a web host in Africa. Redirection of sites is not uncommon (we could have pogmc.org and pogmc.com and simply re-direct one to the other location). I followed the Internet provider's suggestion of deleting and then reloading all the files on the server. I hope no one was caught up in the re-direction and ended up with a virus or worse. I do, however, wonder what the re-directed site would have been, but guess I will never know.

Bottom line: We live in an electronic age. It is hard to imagine doing without email or Internet. Protect yourself. If you need assistance get a good anti-virus program or an Internet security program. They take away a lot of the risk.

Birthstone of the Month

C&C Editor, Anita Dresner

Tourmaline gemstone is the birthstone for October and the gemstone for the 8th wedding anniversary. The name Tourmaline comes from the Sinhalese (Sri Lanka) word tura mali meaning “stone of mixed colors”. Tourmaline has color varieties of brown to yellow, blue, green, red, yellow, pink; but can be found colorless. Bi-colored and multicolored crystals are common. Crystals may even have a green end and a pink end, or green outside with a pink middle; the latter usually referred to as watermelon tourmaline.



Tourmaline can be found in igneous rocks, granite / granite pegmatite in metamorphic rocks like schist or marble. Other than that found in the United States tourmaline can be found in Brazil and Africa, with some gm size found in Tanzania, Nigeria, Kenya, Madagascar, Afghanistan, Pakistan.

In the United States, tourmaline was first discovered in 1822, in the state of Maine, then in California in the early 1900s. The Maine crystals were raspberry pink-red and minty greens. California crystals are bright pinks, and bicolor. In the early 1900s, these two states were the world's largest producers of gem tourmalines. Pink and green tourmaline was used by the Native Americans in funeral gifts for ages.

Folklore, Legend, and Healing Properties

Tourmaline' Ancient legend: It is found in all colors for it has travelled a rainbow, gathering all its colors along the way. Belief is, it will strengthen the body and spirit, and it is thought to inspire and nurture creativity and used by artists and writers extensively as a talisman.

General Info

Silicate mineral group: Mohs Scale hardness: 7–7.5

Chemical formula: $(Ca,K,Na,[])(Al,Fe,Li,Mg,Mn)_3(Al,Cr,; Fe,V)_6(BO_3)_3(Si,Al,B)_6O_{18}(OH,F)_4$.

Ref: <http://www.arkadiancollection.com/gemstone-directory/tourmaline> also picture

Ref: <http://www.arkadiancollection.com/gemstone-directory/tourmaline>

Ref: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tourmaline>

Ref: <http://www.bernardine.com/gemstones/tourmaline.htm>

Field Trip

David Dobson, POGM Member

WHAT? A FIELD TRIP!

Where? TXI

When? NOV 13.

Time? 9AM TO 11AM.

Meet-Up Location?

David Dobson will be sending out the direction where to meet and any other instructions, via email.

An Observation

C & C Editor

It was fantastic to see the Pleasant Oaks Booth at InterGem so full of members, all cheerful, with beautiful creations, and an atmosphere of harmony and camaraderie in the air. Here is hoping the word got out about what the club does; and others will want to be a part of our Rock, Gem, and Mineral Club.

President Message: In Interest of YOUR Club

President POGM: Del Grady

November starts a new year for the Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club (POGMC). With it begins a new chance to volunteer some of your time to your club. This should include attending as many monthly meetings as you can at a minimum; attend club functions, ie.; field trips, classes, rock swaps, and any other club-sponsored activity; volunteer for a club position. You are important to the club. Please consider volunteering for a position. You may contact a member of the nominating committee by phone or see them at the September meeting. The committee is as follow:

- A. Mark Carter 972-680-9223
- B. Ling Shurtz 972-509-2821
- C. Warner Regan 214-535-4690

Here below is the list of offices and their description.

Duties of Officers and Appointed Positions

President (elected office) – preside at meetings and executive committee meetings, enforce the by-laws of the club, and appoint committees as necessary

1st Vice President (elected office) – to act in the place of the president if the president is absent, and to plan the programs of all club meetings

2nd Vice President (elected office) – supervise and maintain club lapidary equipment, instruct in its use, and coordinate instructors and supervisors for shop activities. Recently added 2nd VP also coordinates field trips

Secretary (elected office) – keep the records of membership of the club and minutes of the meetings, responsible for club correspondence, and maintain a permanent files of the *Chips and Chatter*

Treasurer (elected office) – collect and deposit all club monies (including dues), pay bills, keep account of receipts and disbursements, provide a monthly report

Editor (appointed, and member of the executive committee) – manage and publish the club’s newsletter (duties not specified in by-laws)

Show Chair (appointed, and member of the executive committee) – coordinate all club show activities (duties not specified in by-laws)

Assistant Show Chair (appointed, and member of the executive committee) – assist the show chair, and generally serves as dealer coordinator (duties not specified in by-laws)

Librarian (appointed) – maintain the club library, coordinate use of club books and videos (duties not specified in by-laws)

Sunshine Chair (appointed) – maintain contact with club members regarding health and other issues, report at meetings as appropriate (duties not specified in by-laws)

Club Host (appointed) – coordinate refreshments at meetings, coordinate annual Christmas party (duties not specified in by-laws)

A Little Humor

Age is a very high price to pay for maturity.
Bills travel through the mail at twice the speed of checks.
A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.

Show Dates

2010

OCTOBER 2010

9-10 FT WORTH, TX: 2010 LMRA Annual Rockfest, 10am - 5pm, 3400 Bryant Irvin Road, Ft Worth, TX 76109; This is a Lapidary & Jewelry Show which appears will be a treat to take in. LMRA Annual Rockfest (Flint, Rock-Gem-Mineral-Jewelry Sale) being held along with LMRA annual Model Railroader's Show & Pottery in the Park Show & Sale. e-mail: steve.l.shearin@lmco.com

22-24 AUSTIN, TEXAS: Austin G&M Society Show, "Gem Capers 2010"; Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Road; Fri 9-5, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$5(all 3 days), seniors \$4, child 5& under free 6/12 .50 cents, 13-18 \$1; 30 + vendors, displays, Rock Food Table, rocks and fossil touch table, demos 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; Website: www.GemCapers.com

NOVEMBER 2010

5-7 BLACK CANYON CITY, AZ: "Rock-A-Rama" Annual Show; Braggin' Rock Club; High Desert Park, Jacie Street; free admission; minerals, lapidary supplies, displays, fossils, rough slabs, crystals, beads, tailgaters welcome; call Phyllis, (623) 374-5451

6-7 AMARILLO, TX: Golden Spread Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show; Amarillo Civic Center, 401 S Buchanan; Sat 10-6, Sun.10-5; admission \$2; jewelry, gems, minerals, fossils, metal detectors, working demonstrations; contact Roy or Wanda Finley, 9170 FM 1151, Claude, TX 79019, (806) 944-5464; email: finfran@midplains.coop

6 TUCSON, AZ: 9th Annual Silent Auction; Old Pueblo Lapidary Club; 3118 N Dale; Sat 9-2; free admission; contact Danny V. Harmsen, (520) 323-9154

6-7 MIDLAND, TX: 48th Annual Show; Midland Gem & Mineral Society; Midland Center, 105 N Main Street, corner of Wall and Main; Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$4, students (6-18) \$1, children 5 and under free; dealers, demonstrations, exhibits, silent auction, kids' corner, geode cutting, fluorescent mineral room; contact Craig Tellinghuisen, (432) 697-7668; email: mgmstx@gmail.com

12-14 HUMBLE, TX: Houston Gem & Mineral Society 57th Annual Show; Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy; Fr i& Sat 9-6, Sun 10-6; adults \$7, seniors and students \$6, children under 12 free; displays, working exhibits, demonstrations, fluorescent mineral exhibit, swap area, more than 40 dealers, minerals, fossils, jewelry, spheres, meteorites; contact Rick Rexroad, HGMS Clubhouse, 10805 Brooklet, Houston, TX 77099, (281) 530-0942; email: rlrexroad@sbcglobal.net; Website: www.hgms.org

20-21 MESQUITE, TX: Dallas Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show: Parade of Gems; Resistol Arena Exhibition Hall, 1818 Rodeo Drive, Mesquite, TX,(I-635 @ Military Pkwy, Exit 4) displays, Rock Food Table, demonstrations, fossil, rocks, gems, jewelry, geodes, jewelry making, rocks that glow in the dark, grand prize, hourly door prizes, Kids Wheel of Fortune, Gem Mine. Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; Adults \$8; 4-12 \$3; under 4 free, family of 4/\$20. Show Chairman Darrell Harrison at bravolbravo@sbcglobal.net, assistants Anita Dresner @ anitadresner@rocketmail.com & Mollie Cutting @ mollie_cutting@sbcglobal.net. Visit website at www.dallasgemandmineral.org

DECEMBER 2010

3-5 EL PASO, TX: El Paso Mineral & Gem Society; El Maida Auditorium, 6331 Alabama; Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$3, seniors \$2, under 12 free; gems, minerals, fossils, beads, jewelry, tools, books, equipment, geode cutting, silent auction, demonstrations; contact Jeannette Carrillo, 4100 Alameda Avenue, El Paso, TX 79905, (877) 533-7153; email: gemcenter@aol.com

JANUARY 2011

1-31 QUARTZSITE, AZ: "Desert Gardens International Gem & Mineral Show" Show; Desert Gardens RV Park; 1064 Kuehn Street (I-10 Exit 17, south side); 9-6 daily; free admission; crystals, minerals, rough, polished, jewelry, lapidary equipment; contact Sharon or Sandy, 1064 Kuehn Street, Quartzsite, AZ 85346, (928) 927-6361; email: info@desertgardensrvpark.net; Website: www.desertgardensrvpark.net

14-16 GLOBE, AZ: Gila Co. Gem & Mineral Society 54th Annual Show; Gila County Fair Grounds, 3 mi north of US 60-70 Junction; Fri & Sat 9-5, Sun 9-4; live demonstrations, door prizes, displays, minerals, jewelry; contact Val Lathem, (602) 466-3060; email: val65@cox.net

15-16 FREDERICKSBURG, TX: 42nd Annual Show, "Hill Country Gem & Mineral Show"; Fredericksburg Rockhounds; Pioneer Pavilion, Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park; Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; free admission; contact Jeff Smith, 208 Castle Pines Drive, Kerrville, TX 78028, (830) 895-9630; email: jeffbrenda@windstreram.net; Website: www.fredericksburgrockhounds.org

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2011

31-6 TUCSON, AZ: Arizona Global Gem & Jewelry Wholesale Show; The Hotel Arizona, 181 W Broadway; Mon-Sun 10-6; contact Ron Swanson, (520) 396-4469; email: ron@aggjs.com; Website: www.aggjs.com

FEBRUARY 2011

1-28 QUARTZSITE, AZ: "Desert Gardens International Gem & Mineral Show"; Desert Gardens RV Park; 1064 Kuehn Street (I-10 Exit 17, south side); 9-6 daily; free admission; crystals, minerals, rough, polished, jewelry, lapidary equipment; contact Sharon or Sandy, 1064 Kuehn Street, Quartzsite, AZ 85346, (928) 927-6361; email: info@desertgardensrvpark.net; Website: www.desertgardensrvpark.net

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL



To:

++++++ *October 7, 2010; 7:30 PM* **++++++**
Garland Women's Activities Building 713 Austin, Garland, TX

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)

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