

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter



October 1, 2011
Vol. 45, Issue 10

Feature Article

Article of Interest.....4

Monthly Columns

Area Clubs3
 BirthStone of the month.....3
 Bench Tips4
 Editors Corner3
 President's Message.....X
 1st VP.....X
 Question of Interest / AnswerX
 Refreshments.....X
 RockHounders ArticleX
 Secretary Report.....2
 Up-Coming Shows.....5

Meetings etc.

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Check our website www.pogmc.org
 for past months issue of the
[Chips and Chatter](http://www.pogmc.org)

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

Club Officers for 2011

President: Del Grady
 1st VP: Mark Carter, (972) 680-9223
 Secretary: Lee Elms
 Treasurer: Don Shurtz, (972) 509-2821
 Editor: Anita Dresner
 E-mail: anitadresner@rocketmail.com

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

September 2011 Minutes from the Secretary

POGM Secretary: Lee Elms

President: The September, 2011 meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by President Del Grady. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Bob Parker.

Secretary Report: The minutes of the August meeting were published in the Chips and Chatter and we voted unanimously to approve the minutes as published.

Treasurer Report: The Treasurers report was unanimously accepted.

Sunshine Report: Pattie is sick right now, and required a cortisone shot. Best wishes for improved health were sent her way and hopes for her return to the meetings real soon.

Old Business:

A) Inter-Gem set-up will be Wednesday, October 5th & Thursday, October 6th. The Inter-gem Show hours:

Friday	October 7 th	12:00 noon to 6:00 pm
Saturday	October 8 th	10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Sunday	October 9 th	11:00 am to 5:00 pm

If you plan to participate, start getting your wares in order.

B) Ling, Carol Grady and Terri Collier volunteered to be on the nominating committee for new club officers

New Business: We need some refreshment volunteers to sign up for the next few months.

Field Trips:

A) The Arlington Show is this weekend, which happens to also be Labor Day weekend.

B) The Earth Science Fair at Brookhaven is the end of this month.

C) Keith Harmon is having a yard sale and equipment for sale. Del said that Keith has literally tons of rocks and equipment that he wants to sell.

Refreshment Break: Many thanks to those who provided our refreshments this evening.

Program:

Mark Carter presented our program for the evening by way of a DVD titled "What's Hot In Munich". It is the Munich 2010 World Mineral Trade Show. Mark said the whole DVD is about 3 hours long so we just hit the high points. There were incredible Gemstones! The colors and clarity of those on display just took your breath away. They had one display area setup like the jungles of Brazil. The size of some of the gems...oh my gosh. I myself really liked the Watermelon Tourmalines'.

We did a lot of ooohing and aaaahing while watching this DVD. After we finished watching the program, we had our raffle drawings, and we all got a goody from the raffle table.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm.

We had our raffle and adjourned at 8:40pm.

Birthstone of the Month

C&C Editor, Anita Dresner

The Tourmaline gemstone is the “other” 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, 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>

Editor Message

Anita Dresner, *Chips and Chatter* Editor

I am looking forward to receiving loads of filler, tall tales, rockhounding reports, etc. from each of you. Tell us about the first time you made a piece of jewelry, cut a stone, or even went rockhounding. It is all so intriguing to hear about. Won't you share with us?

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

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 the Month: What are Rhinestones?

Don Shurtz: Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

So here we go with another one of those cross-word puzzle words. What are fake, glittery gem stones? As rockhounds, when you think of fake stones you think of synthetic stones like synthetic opal, synthetic emerald, synthetic diamonds, cubic zirconium, and the like. But years ago, before you were a rockhound, you knew the answer was Rhinestones.

What are Rhinestones? They are small, shiny bits of resin, glass or plastic. But have you really ever looked at one. They look like they are faceted stones – nice uniform facets that are well polished. And for the most part, they are. They may be cast plastic or glass in the shape of a faceted stone, but they are still smoothed and polished. Years ago if they wanted them to be glittery, they backed them with thin, shiny foil which drastically improved their appearance. These days instead of foil they just spray on a metal backing, but it yields the same effect. They are produced by the hundreds of thousands. They show up in costume jewelry, clothing design, hats, and about a million other products. For an outer piece of clothing that they want to have a shiny, glimmering effect they use sequins. But, if they want an even more spectacular effect, they can swap out the sequins and use rhinestones.

Part of the cross-word puzzle clue was that they were fake. However, Rhinestones have not always been fake or man-made. The original Rhinestones were small bits of clear and colored quartz found on the Rhine River in Europe. The quartz was clear and without inclusion or cracks, so it could be faceted. They may have been made to look like a small diamonds, but they were a naturally occurring stone. In 1775, the Alsatian (now a part of France) jeweler George Friedrich Strass developed a technique to coat the back sides of the stone with powdered metal to increase the stones reflectivity and more closely imitate a diamond. To this day, what we call rhinestones are called Strass stones in many European countries.

Rhinestones were originally cut by hand. In 1891, Daniel Swarovski invented a machine to automatically cut and polish glass, leaded glass (crystal), and stones of similar hardness. This allowed many more rhinestones to be manufactured. Swarovski also developed a technique to vacuum plate copper and silver onto the back of the stones to improve their brilliance. Swarovski may have started out making Rhinestones, but today the company is noted for their crystal figures and carvings. If you can come up with some of the original Swarovski Rhinestones, you could have a small fortune in your hand.



Rhinestones on a tiara

Ref:

- Antique Jewelry Investor, <http://www.antique-jewelry-investor.com/history-of-rhinestones.html>
- History of Rhinestones & General Information, <http://reviews.ebay.com/History-of-Rhinestones-amp-General-Information>
- Rhinestone, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhinestone>
- Picture of Rhinestones on a tiara from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhinestone>

Bench Tips

Brad Smith: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/>

When bezel setting a transparent cabochon in silver, I worry that the silver will tarnish under the stone and will destroy the brilliance of it's color & pattern. So, I take one extra step before setting the stone. I place a piece of thin silver Mylar plastic under the stone to act as a mirror that will never tarnish.

This Mylar is readily available in craft and gift wrap stores, or in a pinch from a party balloon supplier. You may want to experiment with using colored or patterned Mylar (i.e. diffraction pattern) under some stones.

2011 Shows

October

8-9 FT WORTH, TX: LMRA Stone Steppers Annual Show; Lockheed Martin Recreation Association, 3400 Bryant Irvin Road; Sat & Sun 9-6; Free; rocks, gems, minerals, flinters, prospecting equipment, GPAA, jewelry, pottery, stained glass, kids activities; contact Steve Shearin, 860 Stafford Station Drive, Saginaw, TX 76131, (817) 733-5368; email: steve.l.shearin@lmco.com

8-9 TEMPLE, TX: Tri-City GMS Annual Show, Mayborn Convention Center, 3303 N 3rd Street; Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$3; silent auctions, raffles, door & grand prizes, demos, dealers, rough, slabs, cabs, gems, equipment, finished jewelry; contact Chip Burnette, 2630 Polk Street, Killeen, TX 76543, (254) 630-3573; email: burnette@aceweb.com

13-15 MT IDA, AR: 25th Annual World Champion Quartz Crystal Digging Contest; Mt Ida Area CofC; Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Fairgrounds Road; Thu 8-3, Fri & Sat 9-3; adults \$80 (\$95 after Oct. 1); dig quartz crystals, keep all you find, meet other miners, maybe win a prize; contact Maureen Walther, Mt Ida Area CofC, Mt Ida, AR 71957, (870) 867-2723 (870) 867-2723; email: director@mountidachamber.com; Website: www.mountidachamber.com

13-16 FRANKLIN, NC: South East Gems & More Annual Show; Whistle Stop Mall Parking Lot, 1281 Georgia Road (Hwy 441N); Thu thru Sat 9-6, Sun 9-4; Free; dealers, silver and gold smithing, rough, slabs, fossils, minerals, metaphysical, findings, gemstones, custom jewelry and repairs; contact Mark or Patricia Smith, 751 Hutto Pond Road, Aiken, SC 29805, (706) 490-4550; email: segems@ymail.com

14-16 MT IDA, AR: "Quartz, Quiltz and Craftz Festival" Show; Mt Ida Area CofC; Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Fairgrounds Road; Thu thru Sat 9-6, Sun 10-4; Free; dealers, minerals, jewelry, quartz crystals, quilts, crafts, children's digging contest Sat; contact Maureen Walther, Mt Ida Area CofC, Mt Ida, AR 71957, (870) 867-2723 (870) 867-2723; email: director@mountidachamber.com; Website: www.mountidachamber.com

21-23 AUSTIN, TX: "Gold" Annual Show; AGMS; Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Road; Fri 9-5, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$5, Srs (60 and over) \$4, students (13-18) \$1, children (6-12) 50 cents; 30+ dealers, jewelry, beads, gemstones, mineral specimens, crystals, fossils, spheres, lapidary equip, exhibits, member collections, cabbing, "Rock Food" table, touch table, fluorescent minerals, silent auction, demos, faceting, fossil cleaning, "Youth Education Day" Fri, Gem Mine, Wheel of Fortune, Jewelry Making, door & grand prize; contact Susan Postlethwait, 6719 Burnet Lane, Austin, TX 78757, (512) 458-9546; email: showchariman@austingemandmineral.org; Website: www.gemcapers.com

22-23 DENISON, TX: Texoma Rockhounds Annual Show; Senior Center (Snap Center), 531 W Chestnut; Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4; Free; contact Rosemary Siems, 91 Country Hill Circle, Sherman, TX 75090, email: ramblingrosetoo@yahoo.com; telephone (903) 647-5590

November

5-6 AMARILLO, TX: Golden Spread Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show; Amarillo Civic Center-Regency Room, 401 S Buchanan Street; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$3, children under 12 free; prehistoric, outer space, down under, precious, unusual, cheaps, artifacts, valuables, jewelry, Indian jewelry, beads, displays; contact Wanda Finley, 9170 FM 1151 Claude, TX 79019, (806) 944-5464; email: finfran@midplains.coop

5-6 MIDLAND, TX: MGMS; Midland Center Annual Show, 105 N Main Street, corner of Wall & 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 Tom Wurster, PO Box 5043, Midland, TX 79704, (432) 682-6258 or (432) 230-2566; email: show@midlandgemandmineral.org; Website: www.midlandgemandmineral.org

11-13 HUMBLE, TX: HGMS 58th Annual Show; Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy; Fri & Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$7, srs & students \$6, 12 & under free; displays, working exhibits, fluorescent mineral exhibit, Rock Food Table, swap area, 40+ dealers, minerals, fossils, jewelry, slabs, rough, spheres, meteorites, beads, petrified wood slabs; contact Theresa Peek, Houston Gem & Mineral Society, 10805 Brooklet, Houston, TX 77099, (281) 530-0942; email: show@hgms.org; Website: www.hgms.org

December

2-4 EL PASO, TX: El Paso Mineral & Gem Society Annual Show; El Maida Auditorium, 6331 Alabama; Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$3, seniors \$2, students \$3, children (under 12) Free; gems, minerals, fossils, beads, jewelry, tools, books, equipment, geode cutting, silent auction, demonstrations; contact Jeannette Carrillo, 4100 Alameda Ave, El Paso, TX 79905, (915) 533-7153; email: gemcenter@aol.com; Website: epmgs.com

CHIPS AND CHATTER

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

PO Box 831934

Richardson, TX 75083-1934

FIRST CLASS MAIL



To:

5th Place AFMS 2007 small bulletins
1st place SCFMS 2006 small bulletins
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1st place SCFMS 2004 small bulletins
HM AFMS 2004 small bulletins
2nd place SCFMS 2003 small bulletins

+++++++ **October 6, 2011; 7:30 PM** +++++++

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)

Program Presentation

It is always a great time at our POGM meeting.
Please come join in the fun and learning about
Rocks, Gems and Minerals and Fossils.

Member of

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

Affiliated with

American Federation of Mineral Societies