

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter



October 2012
Vol. 46, Issue 10

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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

Next meeting will be October 4th at the Garland Women's Activity Building, 713 Austin, Garland, TX. Mr. Tommie Diamond, a preparator at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science, will give a presentation on "Alamosaurus from Find to Exhibit". Tommie was the lead preparator for the project!

Club Officers for 2012

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

Check our website, www.pogmc.org
for prior month issues of the
Chips and Chatter

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

September 2012 Minutes September 6, 2012

Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club
Minutes for September 6, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Del Grady, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mark Carter. Sunshine report N/A

Minutes for the August meeting as published in the Chips and Chatter, a motion was made by Mark Carter and seconded by Warner Regan and was accepted.

The Treasurer's report was read by Don Shurtz, a motion to accept as read was made by Mark Carter and seconded by Warner Regan. Motion carried.

Don Shurtz is to post details of South Central Federation Show he attended, in the next Chips and Chatter.

Slate of new officers will presented by the nominating committee and voted on at the October meeting.

After a short break, we watched a DVD on thumbnails.

Raffle.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by
Carolyn Grady



President's Message

Del Grady, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club



Another year is almost over and it is time to elect new club officers. Support your club and help elect the club officers for the upcoming year. The new officers will need your help and input to keep the club running for another year.



Editor's Corner: Club Elections

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

What else needs to be said, other than I second Del's message

Possible Field Trip?

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Hope you didn't miss the **Dallas G&MS Show** in Mesquite on 29th and 30th of September. Then October starts with the **Arlington G&MC Show** in Arlington on the 6th and 7th, **Lockheed Martin Stone Steppers Show** in Ft. Worth on the 13th and 14th, and then the **Texoma Rockhounds Show** in Denton on the 20th and 21st.

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 Tuesday of each month at 7 pm

Oak Cliff Gem & Min Soc., South Hampton Community Hospital, 2929 S. Hampton Rd, Dls, TX, 4th Tuesday of 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. of each month at 7:30 pm

Rock hounding in the Dallas Area “Seek and Find”

David Dobson, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

A friend just forwarded to me some pictures and I thought that I would share with you what I just learned.

I have done a lot of fossil and rock collecting in the Dallas area. One can find something in every creek if you stay out of the mud and find a pile of rocks. Chances are there will be a fossil or two in that pile. Searching the rock walls will also reveal great finds. Going to construction sites (with permission) is always another good location to find exposed fossils. Between creeks and construction sites, if you search long enough you will find a good location for sharks teeth or other marine beauties, but it helps if you know what you are looking for. So below is a learning experience for me as well. In one of these two pictures is a wonderful find. It is right there. Just pick it up.



See “The Find” near the bottom of page 4

SCFMS Convention Report

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

This year’s SCFMS Convention was held August 25 in Jasper, TX in conjunction with the Jasper Gem and Mineral Society annual show. The first order of business was the call of the roll with 18 of the 36 SCFMS clubs being present. From the Metroplex, 3 of the 5 SCMFS clubs were represented (Arlington, Ft. Worth, and Pleasant Oaks). In general, the meeting consisted of a lot of “the report is in the packet” responses with little or no discussion. The exception was the SCFMS Endowment Fund and the SCFMS Budget, both topics taking up a disproportionate amount of time. It was interesting to note that the Budget had greater expenses than projected income, but was left intact as in most cases the entire budgeted amount is not utilized. The dues for SCFMS membership were not changed. Some additional items of interest included:

- The SCFMS President indicated the 1st District report was worth reading and possible inclusion in the club newsletters. I agree that it is an interesting report and have included it in this issue (see next page)
- The SCMFS needs nominations for the Scholarship Honoree by the end of October. It should be noted that the Honoree need not be in the academic field.
- The SCMFS Shows and convention sites for 2015 will be in Austin (also the AFMS convention). After discussions, Ark-La-Tex indicated it would host the 2013 show and convention. Corpus Christi or Baton Rouge are possible sites for the 2014 show and convention
- Insurance premiums are due at the end of September, SCFMS Dues as soon after the end of October as possible, and officer forms as soon as new officers are known.
- The SCMFS lost its 501-C status and is looking for help in re-establishing its recognized non-profit status. Jonathan Mohring (from Grand Prairie) is the Point of Contact.

District 1 2012 Report

Bill Gilles, SCFMS District 1 Vice President

Note: This is the SCFMS District 1 Vice President's from the SCFMS Convention. The SCFMS President, Virginia Adian, asked all the delegates to give this a thorough read and encouraged us to publish it in our club newsletters. This report is well worth the time to read and consider - Don

It hard to believe it is time for the 2012 District 1 Report to the South Central Federation. The goal for me this year is to visit all the Clubs in the District. I have a few Clubs left to visit and hope to accomplish my goal by the end of the year.

The Clubs in the District have seen an increase in membership for most Clubs. The Clubs that have drawn the most new members have done so because they offer more classes, have shops that have equipment that new members can use, and have successful Gem and Mineral Shows. The key to the Club that draws new members is the current membership.

First, Clubs members must be willing to teach classes and pass on their knowledge to the new members. They must have youth classes and field trips that will involve the whole family. The economy has dictated most families find hobbies that the can do together that is low cost that is stimulating and fulfilling the needs of all the members. Watch the eyes of the young boy or girl that shows their first cabochon to their mom and dad. The youth is the future of the lapidary/jewelry arts and we must reach out to the youth. The Clubs that offer scholarships to students with interest are taking the next in preparing young adults for the future. All Clubs should think about creating a scholarship. They may drift away from the field, but later in life they will be more willing to come back to if they have prior knowledge of the field.

Second, the Clubs that have a workshop or Club house with equipment that the Club members can use or rent helps increase the Club membership this difficult for small Clubs without workshops because of the cost of real estate, equipment, maintenance, utilities and taxes. The smaller Clubs may have to offer workshops on weekends in churches or public facilities that can be used for free or at a reduced cost. Many Clubs have been receiving donations of equipment and materials from former members or their families. Clubs can get creative by contacting other Clubs in the district to see if their members can participate in classes or have one of the Club's members will come in and give a class.

Third, the Club's Gem and Mineral Shows must be more than a "sale". The Club's that increase membership after a Show are the Clubs that demonstrations put on by Club member and have displays of the member's work or area of interest. Most people gain interest in anything they buy, learn, or gain interest in they learn by visually seeing the product, or seeing a demonstration of the task /hobby that might be interested in. The ideal Gem and Mineral Show will have vendors that represent all areas of the lapidary/jewelry arts, activities that will interest the youth, several Club members demonstrating one of the lapidary or jewelry arts, and the display cases of Club members and members of the surrounding Clubs. These are just some of my personnel observations and conclusions that I have made by attending shows and talking members of various Clubs throughout Texas. We must remember how blessed we all are to live in the United States of America and the great state of Texas. We can travel freely and congregate to pursue interests.

God Bless America! Regards,
Bill Gilles
District 1 Representative

The "Find" (from "Seek and Find" on page 3)

Did you find it? Here is what you were looking for. I have never found an Indian artifact. I don't know how many arrow heads that I may have over looked, but I learned something too. Now I know what I am looking for.



HAPPY HUNTING!

PS: This was also found on the trip. Keep an eye out and no TOUCHING! This person was a trained professional.



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October Birthstones: Tourmaline and Opal

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

November is a fortunate month – it has two birthstones. The two birthstones are Tourmaline and Opal. Tourmaline is chemically a boron silicate which forms compounds with other elements such as aluminum, iron, lithium, plus others. Most (estimated to be 95%) of all tourmaline is black in color and known as Schorl. Schorl often is collected for crystal specimens but is rarely used in gemstones. That is because the other 5 % of tourmaline is so much more beautiful. It is generally translucent and colored red, pink, blue, green, yellow, and clear. In many cases, a tourmaline crystal may have two or more colors in the same crystal such as red on one end and green on the other. Also, some crystals exhibit two colors (dichroic) depending on the angle at which it is view – that is, the same face



at one angle it may appear as a red crystal and at another angle a totally different color. One of the most prized forms of tourmaline is called Watermelon Tourmaline as it has a green outer layer and a pink center – like a slice of a watermelon. Tourmaline is found in many parts of the world. In the United States, tourmaline is found in Maine and California. Opal is the other birthstone for October. Opal comes in a variety of forms varying from common opal to colored Mexican Fire Opals to the Australian



Precious Opal . The precious opal is generally white, grey, brown, or black with flashes of many colors (reds, neon purple, green blue, yellow, etc.). Some precious opal is found in the United States in Nevada and Idaho, but these opals generally are not stable and lose their color as they dehydrate. A form of precious opal is also found in Louisiana.

American Gem Society <http://www.americangemsociety.org/october-birthstones>

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

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2012 Show Dates

October 2012,

5-7 October, Albuquerque, NM, Albuquerque G&MC, Creative Arts Building, New Mexico State Fairgrounds, email agmcfallshow@gmail.com, web site agmc.info

6-7 October, Arlington, TX, Arlington Gem and Mineral Club 55th annual show, shopping center behind Walgreens, 1010 N. Collins, e-mail, jlspinks@sbcglobal.net, Web site, www.agemclub.com

6-7 October, Jacksonville, AR, Central Arkansas GUMS, Jacksonville Community Center, email lenoramur@aol.com, web site centralarrockhound.org

6-7 October, Roswell, NM, Chaparral Rockhounds, Roswell Convention & Civic Center, email dweir@cableone.net

11-13 October, Mount Ida, AR, Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce, 26th Annual World Championship Quartz Crystal Digging Contest, Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Fairgrounds Rd., e-mail, director@mtidachamber.com, web site, www.mtidachamber.com

12-14 October, Mount Ida, AR, Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce, Montgomery County Fairgrounds annual show, Fairgrounds Rd., e-mail, director@mtidachamber.com, web site, www.mtidachamber.com

13-14 October, Ft. Worth, TX, LMRA Rockhound Activity, Lockheed Martin Recreation Center, 3400 Bryant Irvin Rd, email liznmarie@yahoo.com

13-14 October, Temple TX, Tri-Cities G&MS, Mayborn Convention Center, email burnette@aceweb.com, web site www.tricitygemmineral.org

19-21 October, Austin, TX, Austin Gem and Mineral Society annual show, Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Spr Rd., e-mail, showchariman@austingemandmineral.org, Web site, www.gemcapers.com

19-21 October, Victoria, TX, Victoria GUMS annual show, Victoria Community Center, 2905 E. North, email victoriagemandmineral@yahoo.com, Web site www.victoriagemandmineral.com

20-21 October, Denison, TX, Texoma Rockhounds annual show, Senior Center, 531 W. Chestnut, e-mail, ramblingrosetoo@yahoo.com

3-4 November, Amarillo, TX, Golden Spread GUMS annual show, Amarillo Civic Center, 401 S. Buchanan ST, email finfran@midplains.coop

3 -4 November, Midland, TX, Midland G&MS annual Show, Midland Center, 105 N. Main St, email show@midlandgemandmineral.org, web site www.midlandgemandmineral.org

9-11 November, Humble, TX, Houston G&MS annual show, Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Parkway, email sigridstewart@gmail.com, web site www.Hgms.org

17-18 November, Ft. Worth, TX, “The Bead Market”, Amon Carter Exhibit Hall, 3400 Burnett Tandy Dr, email rebekah@thebeadmarket.net, web site www.thebeadmarket.net

30 November-2 December, El Paso, TX, El Paso M&GS, El Maida Shrine Auditorium, 6331 Alabama, email gemcenter@aol.com

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL



To:

Meeting Presentation

Next meeting will be October 4th at the Garland Women's Activity Building, 713 Austin, Garland, TX. Mr. Tommie Diamond, a preparator at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science, will give a presentation on "Alamosaurus from Find to Exhibit". Tommie was the lead preparator for the project! We extend a special invitation to all current and previous members, and to visitors to attend to hear this extraordinary presentation

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: \$16.50,
Junior: \$5.00; Family: \$27.50
(Plus badge fee for new members)

MEETING MAP

