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Affiliated: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



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1st Place, 2017 AFMS Mini-Bulletin
1st Place, 2017 SCFMS Mini-Bulletin
1st Place, 2016 SCFMS Mini-Bulletin

Wulfenite

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

Many lead based minerals are colorful and pleasing to look at. They include the fascinating cubes of Galena [PbS] with their high metallic luster, the clear orthorhombic crystals of Anglesite [PbSO₄], the clear, fan-shaped crystals of Cerussite [PbCO₃], the tiny orange and yellow tiny flowery buttons of Mimetite [Pb₅(AsO₄)₃Cl], and the bright yellow and green straw shaped (sometimes hollow) crystals of Pyromorphite [Pb₅(PO₄)₃Cl]. One of the most colorful lead based crystals is Wulfenite (PbMoO₄). Wulfenite crystallizes in the tetragonal system (think of a solid rectangle with a square base). Some of the most beautiful crystals of wulfenite are blades, much like the blades of a barite or gypsum rose. The blades are often bright orange or golden yellow in color. The pictured specimen has bright orange blades and comes from Jianshan Mine, Xinjiang Autonomous Region of China. Some of the wulfenite crystals from Mexico and Arizona are almost cubic in shape sitting on a white limestone matrix; they look amazingly like caramel cubes waiting to be eaten. Other wulfenite



specimens from the Red Cloud mine in Arizona are bright, translucent shape red crystals.

Wulfenite is also found in massive (non-crystallized) form. The massive wulfenite and the poorly

developed crystal pieces can be used as ores for both lead (Pb) and Molybdenum (Mo). One yellow variety of wulfenite is often called yellow lead ore.

Wulfenite is found in a number of locations. The majority of the wulfenite specimens are found in Arizona and northern Mexico. Other areas producing specimens are China, Australia, Slovenia, Iran, Morocco, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Namibia.

As might be expected, the thin blades of wulfenite are brittle and easily broken. Other shaped specimens are

not as fragile.

Reference:

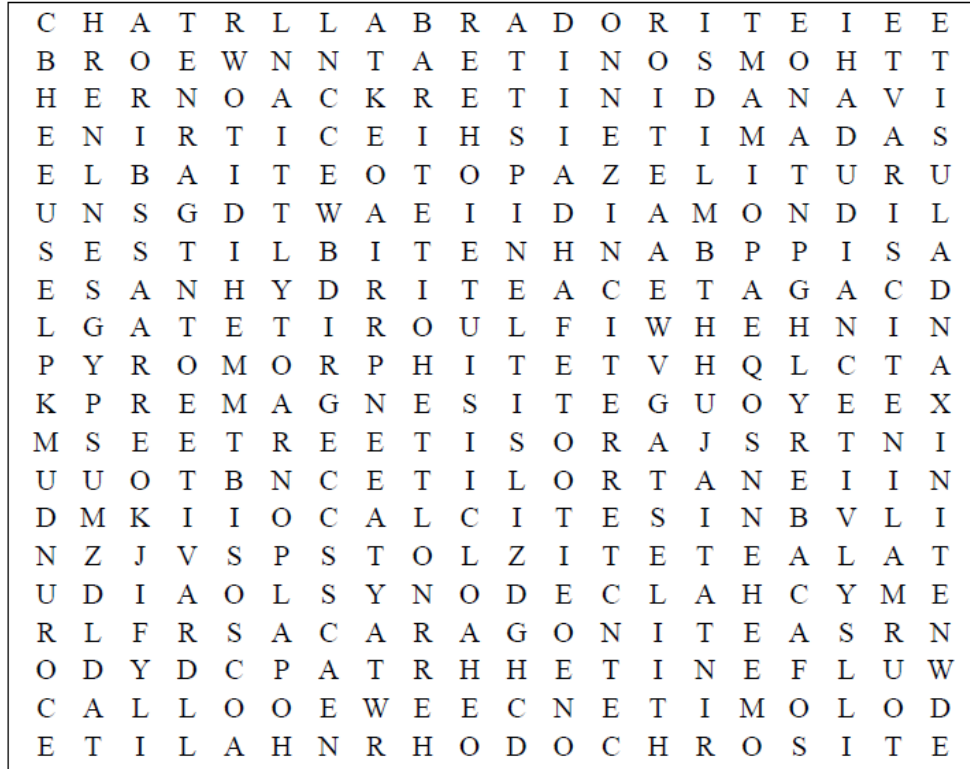
- Wikipedia, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>
- Minerals.net, <http://www.minerals.net/>

Photo: Photo by Don Shurtz, Wulfenite specimen on display at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science.

Visit our web page, www.pogmc.org, to see the picture in color

Orange Rocks
From the October 2017 Gritty Greetings
Newsletter of the Waco Gem and Mineral Club

Whether you envision October as the month when the all leaves are changing their colors or as the last 30 days to get ready for Halloween, the color orange is going to be involved. This month's word search pays homage to the rocks and minerals that exhibit this uncommon color.



- | | | |
|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| Adamite | Dravite | Rhodochrosite |
| Agate | Elbaite | Rutile |
| Anatase | Fluorite | Spinel |
| Andalusite | Garnet | Stilbite |
| Anhydrite | Gypsum | Stolzite |
| Aragonite | Halite | Sylvite |
| Axinite | Jarosite | Thomsonite |
| Barite | Jasper | Topaz |
| Beryl | Kyanite | Tourmaline |
| Calcite | Labradorite | Vanadinite |
| Chabazite | Magnesite | Variscite |
| Chalcedony | Natrolite | Vesuvianite |
| Chrysoberyl | Olivine | Wulfenite |
| Citrine | Opal | Zincite |
| Corundum | Pyromorphite | Zircon |
| Diamond | Quartz | |
| Dolomite | Raspite | |

Federation News

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

Last month I detailed the local and club winners in the AFMS Editor and Author contest. We did very well for such a small club. The plaques and certificates were presented at the September meeting. At that time I indicated that the SCFMS results would not be available until the SCFMS Convention in November. The only thing we could deduce from the AFMS results were that our SCFMS winners finished in the top three spots. However, as the cat (i.e., results) were more or less out of the bag, the SCFMS Bulletin Editor Aid Chair (BEAC) decided to announce the SCFMS results in the September – October SCFMS Newsletter. Note that awards and certificates will still be distributed at the SCFMS Convention (Breakfast with the Editors and Webmasters) in November. Here are the POGMC members who won awards in the SCFMS Editor and Author Contest:

Original Adult Articles, 1st place: Cheryl Ogletree (AFMS Honorable Mention)

Original Adult Articles, 2nd place: Lee Elms (AFMS First Place)

Original Adult Articles, 3rd place: Don Shurtz (AFMS Eighth Place)

Original Adult Articles, 4th place: Casey Montgomery

Original Adult Articles, 6th place: Del Grady

Original Adult Articles, 9th place: Carolyn Grady

Mini Bulletins, 1st place: Chips and Chatter, Don Shurtz editor (AFMS First Place)

Features: 3rd place: Del Grady (AFMS Sixth Place in Written Feature)

Features: 11th place: David Dobson

Features: 15th place: Don Shurtz

Show and Activity Calendar – Upcoming Show and Activity Dates

Oct 7, Rusk, TX, Keith Harmon yard sale (rocks and equipment)

Oct 7, Midlothian, TX, Martin Marietta Materials Field Trip (fossils, septarian nodules, pyrites)

Oct 14 – 15, Temple, TX, Tri-City G&MS Show, Mayborn Civic and Convention Center,

www.tricitygemmineral.org/

Oct 13 – 15, Mount Ida, AR, Mount Ida Chamber of Comm., Montgomery Co. Fairgrounds, www.mtidachamber.com

Oct 13 – 15, Westwego, LA, G&MS of LA show, Alario Center, gemshow2017@gmail.com

Oct 14 – 15, Fort Worth, TX, Cowtown GMGC, Corp. Employees Recreation Assoc, 3300 Bryant Irvin Rd.,

steve.l.shearin@lmco.com

Oct 20 – 22, Austin, TX, Austin G&MS show, Palmer Events Center, <http://agms-tx.org/>

Oct 27 – 29, Dallas, TX, International Gem and Jewelry Show, Market Hall, <https://www.intergem.com/>

Oct 27 – 29, Glen Rose, TX, Dallas Paleo. Society, Sommervell Co. Expo, www.dallaspaleo.org

Nov 4 – 5, Odessa, TX, Midland G&MS show, Ector Co. Coliseum, www.midlandgemandmineral.org/home/

Nov 4 – 5, Amarillo, TX, Golden Spread G&MS show, Amarillo Civic Center,

www.goldenspreadgemandmineralsociety.weebly.com/

Nov 4 – 5, Austin, TX, Paleo Society of Austin show, Old Settlers Heritage Assoc. www.texaspaleo.com/

Nov 10 – 12, Humble, TX, Houston G&MS and SCFMS Convention, Humble Civic Center, www.hgms.org

Nov 18 – 19, Mesquite, TX, Dallas G&MS, Rodeo Center Exhibit Hall, www.dallasgemandmineral.org,

case53d@yahoo.com

Dec 9 – 10, Leesville, LA, DeRidder G&MS show, West LA Forestry Fairground

Jan 20 -21, Fredericksburg, TX, Fredericksburg Rockhounds, Pioneer Pavilion, Lady Bird Johnson Park,

www.fredericksburgrockhounds.org/

Jan 26 – 27, Tyler, TX, East Texas G&MS show, Tyler Rose Garden Center, www.etgms.com/

Ref:

- September - October 2017 SCFMS Newsletter
- Rock & Gem Show Calendar, <http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?ShowState=ALL>

Safety Matters – What Do You Know?

Ellery Brown, AFMS Safety Chair, from the September 2017 AFMS Newsletter



What do you know?

The brain has a remarkable ability to forget things. I've often thought that such an ability to be very useful for quite a number of reasons. One of those reasons is to clear out the clutter that accumulates and in doing so makes room for new stuff.

So, what do you know?

What new information are you stuffing into the places where information has been forgotten? Are you filling the newfound storage in your head with good and useful information?

May I offer the following quote - "Human beings are perhaps never more frightening than when they are convinced beyond doubt that they are right", by Laurens VanDerPost. Over the years I have heard many variations of those words such as, "It's not what one knows, but what one doesn't know - that's the problem." and "It's not what one knows, it's what one knows that isn't so." Please permit me to mention some examples of rockhound safety information that may be less often known:

Oxalic acid - There is a common understanding that oxalic acid is relatively safe. Here are some facts -- compared to many acids oxalic is relatively weak. An acid's strength is measured by how readily hydrogen is given up in water - its Ka value. Oxalic acid has a Ka of 0.0054 (primary) and 0.0000523 (tertiary), so when compared with hydrochloric acid's Ka of 1.0 or nitric's Ka of 27.79 oxalic is comparatively weak. One large issue that is often omitted in the rockhound community is that there is no correlation between an acid's strength and its toxicity. So while the rockhound community understands that oxalic acid may be relatively weak, what is not well known is that, gram for gram, oxalic acid is highly toxic. Its toxic potential can be inhaled or readily absorbed through the skin. Very strict safety measures must be followed to address oxalic's toxicity.

Grindstone Safety. I can't tell you how many times I have seen lapidary workers standing or sitting in front of rapidly rotating grind stones while doing their work. Each time I see such a body position chills run up and down my spine. One should not sit or stand directly in front of a grindstone while one is starting the machine or shutting it down. Nor is it wise to position oneself in front of it while it is running. The reason is that grindstones have the potential to break apart.

Admittedly, the risk is small but never-the less it exists. Equipment guards do mitigate some of the risk potential but, according to machine instructions, not all the risk. I have personally seen the evidence of a self-destructed grindstone and been in the shop when one was self-destructing. Needless to say, a great deal of damage can be done by such an event. So, I highly recommend not standing in the path of anything that can injure oneself. Diamond and belted wheels are considerably less problematic.

Eye protective goggles are great - but there is more to the story. Have you ever noticed that when one is digging for minerals, hammering on big boulders, or doing some extensive lapidary work that a good measure of dust accumulates on the inside of one's goggles? I have noticed that effect quite often. Most goggles are ventilated to prevent fogging and that venting, in addition to some mysterious force, permits accumulation of dust on the inside surfaces of the goggles. Here's the thing - we have protected our eyes with the goggles and those goggles have provided notice that there is a large amount of dust present which is most likely not being addressed by the wearing of a dust mask. In these, less than obvious instances, dust protection is advisable.

So now you know. When one is filling their head with new information, please make sure safety issues are considered. Let's put the new found memory space to its highest and best use.

Please be safe out there!

Visit an Area Club

[Arlington Gem & Mineral Club](#), 1408 Gibbins, Arlington, TX, 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm
[Cowtown G, M, & Glass Club](#), meets the 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm, Corp. Emp. Rec. Association (CERA) 3300 Bryant Irvin Rd. Fort Worth
[Dallas Bead Society](#), meets 1st Saturday of each month at The Point at CC Young, 4847 W. Lawther Dr., Dallas, TX
[Dallas Gem & Mineral Society](#) meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm, American Legion, 10205 Plano Rd, Dallas (next to their shop)
[Dallas Paleontological Society](#), 2nd Wed. of each month at 7:30 pm, Brookhaven College, Building H, 3939 Valley View Lane, 75244
[Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club](#), 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, 3545 Bryan Avenue, Ft. Worth
[Oak Cliff Gem & Min Soc.](#), 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 3839 W. Keist Blvd, Dallas,
[Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club](#), meets the 1st Thur. of each month at 7:30 pm, Garland Women's Activities Bldg., 713 Austin, Garland,

President's Message

Ling Shurtz, POGMC President

This evening we need to nominate and elect officer for 2018. Our new officers should be installed at the November meeting. Also, remember the IGEM show on October 27 – 29 with set-up on Wednesday, October 25.

Club Officers for 2017

President: Ling Shurtz
1st VP, Programs: Carolyn Grady
2nd VP, Field Trips: Open
Secretary: Lee Elms
Treasurer: Del Grady
Editor: Don Shurtz
E-mail: don.shurtz@gmail.com,
L.SHURTZ@gmail.com

Minutes of the September 7th 2017 Meeting

Ling Shurtz called the meeting to order at 7:35pm.

The Pledge to the flag was led by all of us.

Sunshine Report: Butch was here at the meeting with us tonight, it was so good to see him again. He said that Patti was now at home and that she had spent 6 months in the hospital.

Visitors: Our new members Charles Hays and Vickie Ewing were at our meeting tonight.

Minutes: We discussed the Minutes of the August meeting as printed in the September 2017 Chips and Chatter. A motion was made by Don to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Hat, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Del Grady gave the Treasurer's Report. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Butch. The motion was seconded by Ling, and the motion passed.

Old Business: Status of new Name tags. We did a re-vote if we wanted new nametags for the entire club. We all voted yes that we want new nametags. Therefore, Don has accepted the challenge of getting a list of all of the club members names so he can have all the nametags made.

New Business:

- AFMS Editor and Author plaques and certificate awards- Don
 - Adult Article 1st place: Lee - The April Birthstone is Diamond
 - Adult Article 8th place: Don - The Helix, an Awesome Aquamarine
 - Adult Article Honorable Mention: Cheryl- A Stone for June
 - Written Features 6th Place: Del- Find the Hidden Word

- Small Bulletin 1st Place: Chips and Chatter
- IGEM 27 -29 October: The tickets are ready tonight; pick some up before you leave the meeting.
- Other shows and events
 - September 23rd, Dallas G&MS Rock Swap, 10205 Plano Rd. (first eastbound entrance north of 635 and Plano Road, 8 AM to 3 PM
 - November 18-19, Mesquite, TX, Dallas G&MS, Rodeo Center Exhibit Hall
 - November 27-29, Humble, TX, SCFMS Convention/ Houston G&MS, Humble
- There were no items from the floor to discuss.

Break and Project: After our refreshment break we had our presentation which was the continuation of working on our Emu Egg Jewelry Box. Ling helped us glue on the hinge so the top of the egg was joined to the bottom half of the egg and that it would open smoothly. She then gave us some gold embossed narrow ribbon to go around the top and bottom raw edges of the eggs' top and bottom opening and it gives it a nice finished edge. Then she presented us with an assortment of strung beads that we can glue onto the egg in any pattern our heart desired. Ling also gave us a pretty piece of satin so we can line the inside of the egg so our jewel box will be a nice soft place to contain our beautiful jewelry that we have crafted with our own hands. So when we are through with our jewel box we can feel a sense of accomplishment of creating another work of art. Conclusion: A work of art to house our beautiful jewels in.

We had our raffle and then the meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Elms, Secretary

Meeting

Our October 5 meeting will start at 7:30 PM at the Garland Women's Activities Building. This month's project we will finish the Emu Egg Jewelry Box.

SHOW and TELL

Orange or lead based mineral
October birthstones: Opal and Tourmaline

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

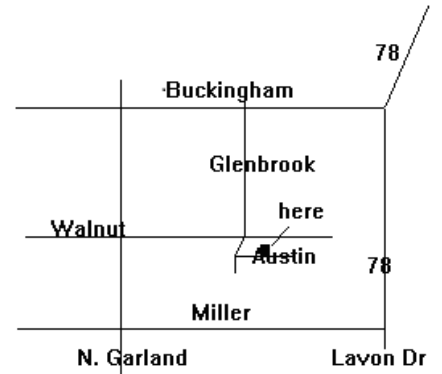
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PLEASANT OAKS GEM and MINERAL CLUB of Dallas



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)



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, particularly 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.

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

To:

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME
Next Meeting: October 5, 2017, 7:30 PM

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