

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter

September 2007
Vol. 41 Issue 9

Features

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Workshop, Meeting, etc.

- Check out our website for a color version of the *Chips and Chatter*
- Open Shop: Each Monday - 4:30 pm – 9:00 pm, and each Saturday - 9:00 am – Noon
- Ladies & Gents night at the shop on 2nd, 3rd & 4th Thursday, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

August issue 2007 by Anita Dresner. Unless otherwise noted, permission granted for non-commercial reproduction of articles provided they remain essentially intact and credit is given to the author and original source. Where noted, the author retains the copyright and must be contacted for permission to reproduce the article. All articles may also be used as reference provided citation is given.

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

Monthly Meeting: Thursday, September 6th at 7:30 pm
Garland Women's Activities Building
713 Austin, Garland, TX

Presentation

There will be a marble display at this month presentation with Wanda Fitzgerald being one of the guest speakers.

Show & Tell

Gather up your marbles, especially your favorite ones and bring them to show and tell. Maybe you have a few that will out shine those of Wanda's collection.

Club Officers for 2007

President: Don Shurtz, (972) 509-2821
1st VP: Mark Carter, (972) 680-9223
2nd VP: Brenda Dowell, (972) 771-9502
Treasurers: Delbert Grady, (972) 235-6575
Secretary: Nell Black
Editor: Anita Dresner (972) 475-5828
E-mail: andresner@verizon.net

Minutes – August, 2007 General Meeting

Minutes as compiled by Secretary, Nell Black, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

I must apologize for not having the minutes for August. I took them, brought them home and then have misplaced them. Anita Dresner

Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Show Report

Ling Schurtz, Show Chairwoman

Everything to this point is running smoothly. I purchased fabric to make new skirts and table covers for the POG&M Club tables, the ticket table and the college table behind the ticket table. It will be ever so much better than what we had to use in the past. Please see the Presidents message and volunteer, volunteer, volunteer. Sign-up sheets will be on the presidents table at the next meeting.

Refreshment Duties

Anita Dresner, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

<u>Month</u>	<u>Ice & Drinks</u>	<u>Snacks</u>
October	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer
November	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer

Sunshine Report

Anita Dresner, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

On August 25th, Del reported that Warner Regan called to report Greg (Hat) Gosnell was at Big Baylor having suffered a stroke. Our heartfelt wishes and prayers are with you Greg. Hope by now you are doing better and the therapist have you back on your way to new again. April Dobson was in the hospital at press time. David did not go into details; but, I am sure he has his hands full with Daniel and the new baby. Get well soon April.

InterGem Thanks You

InterGem and Adstrategies thank you for a great Spring 2007 show season. We are pleased to report that first time show attendee numbers are up by 25 percent year-to-date. There are plenty of great promotions and marketing plans already being planned for the Fall season so we can continue the growth trends.

Please find our July 2007 Advertising and Promotions news letter at this site below.

<http://www.adstrategies.com/GemEmails/JulyNewsletter707.pdf>

We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming show!

Thanks,
Adstrategies & InterGem



Editor's Corner

Anita Dresner, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Well this month I am stepping out of my gleefully filling your head and minds with chatter on various rocks, minerals, and other “rock hounding stuff”, to bring you some exciting news from The South Central Federation of Minerals Societies in regards to the Bulletin Editor’s Contest. There were great entries submitted from various clubs. I will mention just a few here. One was titled “*Wanda’s Wandering – Color Pearl*” written in June of 2006. Check your old *C&C* for that issue and read it again. It is most interesting. It is about Wanda’s wandering and her fascination with and seeking out the Concho Pearl. Our Wanda Fitzgerald took Honorable Mention for Features with this story.

Another entry, written about our trip to TXI in June of 2006, appeared in the September 2006 issue. There were quite a few pictures of our finds, sharks teeth, shell and inner shell molds as well as a great Pyrite short story. David explained what to look for and where to best search for pyrite. David Dobson took Ninth Place for features with this article he wrote.

Only the top three places received a trophy and Brad Tanus did just that with his article on “*Rockhounding in Alpine Texas*”. Brad’s article was in the January 2006 issue of *C&C*. It relates his excitement for the area of Alpine, the side trips and encounters with various wild life along the way to McDonald Observatory. Brad gives insight as to the make-up and nature of the volcanic hills where hounding took place looking for chalcedony and red and black plume agate as well as finding nodules eroding out of the basalt.

This was my first experience in attending the editor’s breakfast and ultimately accepting, with honor, the awards on behalf of each of you. Congratulations Wanda, David and Brad, you did the *Chips and Chatter* proud! Keep spreading that magical rock dust and do some kind of rock hounding this month.

President’s Message

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

By time you have read this, the SCFMS Convention will have come and gone. The SCFMS Convention is being hosted by the Arlington Gem and Mineral club. Your’s truly will hopefully have led his first successful Editor’s Breakfast; but, it could be a total disaster. I have continually underestimated the time and effort going into the Editor’s Breakfast. Some of our club members will receive trophies and/or certificates at the Editor’s Breakfast. Details will be published next month.

Our show is coming up at the end of September. I know this is said every year; but, everyone needs to pitch in and help set-up Friday, September 28th. The tables will be set-up by the Ellison Miles Geotechnology Institute staff. We will need to move cases, the children’s mine, etc. from the shop; and then, we will need to set-up display cases and prepare the club tables. The show itself will be on Saturday and Sunday and we will need to staff the ticket table, children’s mine, silent auction, and hospitality. After the show closes on Sunday, we will need to break all the tables down and stack them and we need strong backs for this effort. If you can help, please try to come to our September meeting. If you can’t make the meeting, then contact myself or Ling at 972-509-2821. If everyone in the club could help out for 2 hours, we would have more than enough people. It would really be a pleasure to see everyone helping out.

See you at the meeting.

Don

1st Vice President Message

Mark Carter, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

No report this month

Feature Article of the Month

Remember Marbles. Submitted by Wanda Fitzgerald

Marbles,

We all remember when we were young and the game of marbles was very popular. We would see groups of players on the ground shooting round marbles made of glass, clay or stone.

Some of these marbles of clay, stone, and flint dated back to the ancient Roman and Egyptian times. It wasn't until the 1800's that marbles, as we know them today, was born.

The name marble comes from the kind of stone that was used. In the 1800's, the best playing marbles were made from alabaster but was very expensive. People began to make marbles out of clay; but, they chipped and broke easily. So, marble makers began to look for other materials, such as glass and china; but, they cost too much to make. In 1846, a German glass blower had special tools that could make marbles and it was cheaper and easy to produce. These type scissors could snip off a glob of melted glass which was then shaped to form a marble. Today, there are hundreds of glass makers who make some of these one-of-a-kind marbles that have become collectors items.

CAT'S EYE: a single spiral of colors inside this kind of swirl marble that does look like the pupil of a cat's eye.

CLEARIE: a marble made of any color of clear glass.

AGGIE: a marble made of agate, a mineral that may be brown, reddish brown, yellow, gray or white. Agate is harder than glass or clay.

CORKSCREW: a twist of colors running from one end to the other.

ALLEY: the white alabaster (or rock) is very expensive and you do not see them any more. The most valuable of Alley is with a streak of red.

GLOSSY: a glass marble.

MILKIE: any white milky opaque marble.

PEEWEE: any marble ½" wide or less, often made of steel.

SLAG: a marble made of two colors of glass by melting it together.

GEMSTONES: very valuable marbles made in Europe from semiprecious stones.

STEELIE: a marble made out of steel; usually a ball bearing. Lots of tournaments have outlawed these because they might chip or crack a glass marble.

SWIRL: a glass marble made with swirls of color, made of fine glass threads; either on the inside or outside of the marble. When the swirl is on the inside it often surrounds a solid, hollow, or colored core.

SULPIDE: clearies, made in Germany toward the end of the 1800's, have tiny clay figures embedded in the middle and are very valuable.

Reference:

Marbles: *101 Ways to Play.* By Joanna Cole, Stephanie Calmenson, Michael Street, and Alan Tiegreen April 1998

ROCK SWAP

Dallas GM Society & POGM Club

Please **mark your calendars now** so you won't miss this **exciting and fun day**

What? The joint fall **Rock Swap**

When? **October 20, 2007, 8:00 AM until????**

Many dealers including, but not limited to; rocks, fossils, slabs, minerals and gem stones, etc.

For a donation there is scrumptious food, hey guys, Tex-Mex food!

The menu will be **Fajatas, Tortilla Soup**, and assorted drinks.

To set-up at the swap contact John Woodward – 2nd VP of DGMS at jwoodd@sbcglobal.net or Mike Russell –

President – DGMS at twinman72@yahoo.com.

Come and swap, sell, trade rocks, gems and eat heartily and share tall tales of your finds.

Shop Report

Brenda Dowell, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

The saws at the shop are up and running thanks to the purchase of all the parts that we were in need of this last month. There are two new saws and new blades on the old saws. These new blades are of better quality and should hold up much longer than the old brand we were using.

After the Labor Day Holiday, all shop times will be back to the normal schedule with vacations behind us. The Teachers Event went very well! Thank You to each of you for your part in helping make it a success! We will have some names to add to our prospect list. Also, with the efforts that were put into this event, there are now many more people aware of our show coming up at Brookhaven the first of October.

Take care and bless you all, Brenda

Colorado Field Trip Report

Update by Brenda Dowell, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

Hello to everyone;

I am home from that wonderful summer trip to Colorado! I, as well as others from the club, collected many rocks and gems. The trip was a blast! We had a wonderful group, great camaraderie, rockhounding, eating and did I mention great camaraderie and great fun and sharing of the "fish" that got away. Only here it was the rock that was a "boulder" that someone could not bring down the mountain side. The evening chats and sharing times were worth the trip even if we had not found the fabulous gems and rocks! If you did not get to go this year, you just have to go next year. It is one of the most rewarding trips in so many ways! Brenda

Greater Area Field Trips

Here is information on a field trip sent to **Scot Wingo** from Frank Rowell, he wanted to share with us. It may be of great interest to take part in as we are getting the notice in more than enough time to schedule it into our plans. Scot says that if a couple of people express interest, we can also set up field trips. If you are interested in making it a Club Trip, you may contact Scot at scotwingo@yahoo.com or if you so choose, you may go on your own. Either way it sure sounds like a great deal of fun for the whole family.

The Golden-Gem Rendezvous & Knap-In in Llano - Sept. 28th thru 30th

Llano is the site of the 3rd Annual Great State of Texas Gold Panning Championship. Relive an 1890's gold rush on the Llano River, at Badu Park. Pan for gold in the river, compete for prizes or just have fun. There will also be flint Knappers making arrowheads, gem and jewelry booths, food and music both Saturday and Sunday. Friday will be set up day and there will be an evening mixer with food and music for all participants. Period costumes are being encouraged. For more information contact the Llano Chamber of Commerce at 325-247-5354 or on the web at llanochamber.com/rendezvous.html.

Club Member Ads

Petrified wood for sale \$0.50/lbs - Pieces up to 200 lbs. Drill press with core cutting drill bits.
Diamond core bits ½" to 4" in diameter \$500, 12" vibrating flat lap brand new \$2500. Now \$700.00
\$1.50 to 2.50/lb obsidian rainbow, pink lady, and double flow mahogany.

Will trade for other rocks, or equipment

Ask for David, (214) 731-1288

David has other items that I did not get to list for this issue. If there is anything you are interested in locating, call David first as he just may have what you are looking for. David Dobson

Howard Kuhl Poolside Sale

Howard's Pool Party sale continues with local area artist participation; rocks, gems, minerals and jewelry for sale at pool side. Howard's is striving to bring to the local rock hound enthusiast as many unusual finds as he can locate, at extremely affordable prices, especially for Wire Wrappers. He informed me, he will be having a sale every month for a while. I will be notifying you by Email as he updates me with the next sale date. So watch you Email box.

Question of the Month What is Malachite?

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks G&MC

What is Malachite? Malachite is a type of butterfly, a real estate development group, a type of ceramic wear, and a beautiful green to blue-green stone. Of course, it is the stone variety of malachite that we are interested in. Chemically, malachite is Copper Carbonate Hydroxide with a chemical composition of $\text{Cu}_2\text{CO}_3(\text{OH})_2$. Malachite is sometimes found in its crystalline form, but generally found in massive, botryoidal (meaning shaped like grapes), fibrous, and stalagmitic forms. Malachite is often found with azurite, and both are ores for the production of copper.

Malachite is relatively soft rating a 3.5 to 4 on Mohs hardness scale. Still, malachite is often formed into broaches, pendants, and other pieces of jewelry. Botryoidal forms of malachite ore often just tumbled and displayed as specimens, the wavy lines of light and dark material forming interesting patterns as they warp around the curved surface. Because it is relatively soft, malachite can also be easily carved. Some of the most impressive pieces of art made from malachite can be found at the Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia which was founded in 1764 by Catherine the Great. A large malachite vase (Malachite Coupe) and the Malachite Room are part of the collection. A virtual tour of the malachite room (and others) can be found on the Internet at and would be well worth the time spent. The columns in the room appear to be solid malachite, but in fact are a malachite veneer fabricated from smaller pieces that are perfectly fitted.



Malachite from Zaire

Picture from Wikimedia Commons which grants permission to copy

Malachite has been mined for thousands of years. Archeological evidence indicates it has been mined in Egypt for over 4,000 years. In Israel, malachite has been mined and smelted at the King Solomon's Mines for over 3,000 years. Large quantities of malachite are also found in the Ural Mountains. Closer to home, malachite can be found near Bisbee and Morenci, Arizona. If you want to look even closer to home, malachite is mined at the Marble Canyon mine (also know as the Texas Agricultural Aggregates) near Apache Peak, Culberson County, Texas.

Dictionary.com, <http://dictionary.reference.com/>

Malachite, The Mineral and Gemstone Kingdom, <http://www.minerals.net/carbonat/malachit/malachit.htm>

Malachite, mindat.org, <http://www.mindat.org/locentry-198320.html>

Marble Canyon Mine, <http://www.mindat.org/loc-3251.html>

The State Hermitage Museum, http://www.hermitage.ru/html_En/index.html

Wikimedia Commons, http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Image:Malachite_Zaire.jpg

Wikipedia, <http://en.wikipedia.org>

Question of the Month for October: What is Corundum???

Metroplex Gem and Mineral and Related Clubs

Texas School of Earth Science (Arlington G&M Club) meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM at 1408 Gibbins, Arlington

Pleasant Oaks G&M Club meets the 1st Thursday of each month a 7:30 PM at Garland Women's Bldg., 713 Austin, Garland.

Lockheed-Martin Stone Steppers , 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 PM, 3400 Bryant-Irving Road, Fort Worth, TX

Dallas Paleontological Society meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 at Dallas Museum of Natural History, Fair Park.

Dallas G&M Society meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at Ridgewood Rec. Cntr, 6818 Fisher Rd, Dallas.

Dallas Bead Society meets the 3rd Thur. of each month at 7:30 at Walnut Hill Rec. Ctr., NW corner Walnut Hill & Midway, Dallas

Oak Cliff G&MS meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM, Renaissance Hospital, 2929 S. Hampton Rd., Dallas, TX., 75224

Fort Worth G&M Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM at 3545 Bryan Avenue, Fort Worth, TX.

SEPTEMBER 2007

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3 Labor Day	4	5	6 7:30 pm Pleasant Oaks Club Mtg	7	8 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	9
10 4:30–9:30 pm Open Shop	11	12	13 6:00 – 9:00 pm Ladies & Gents Night @ the Shop	14	15 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	16
17 4:30–9:30 pm Open Shop	18 7:00 pm Dallas Gem Club Mtg	19	20 6:00 – 9:00 pm Ladies & Gents Night @ the Shop	21	22 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	23
24 4:30–9:30 pm Open Shop	25	26	27 6:00 – 9:00 pm Ladies & Gents Night @ the Shop	28	29 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	30

Show Dates

September 29 & 30, Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane, Farmers Branch, Tx. *Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Show.* Custom Artist design, Geodes, Lapidary Supplies, Cabbing rough, Fossils, Minerals, Children's mine and much more. Geology workshop for boy and girl scouts given by the Ellison Miles Geotechnology Institute, Hourly door prizes and Grand prize drawing on Sunday, for show information call 972-509-2821 or visit web site www.POGMC.org

Sept. 28th thru 30th, Llano, TX - Golden-Gem Rendezvous & Knap-In in Llano. 3rd annual Great State of Texas Gold Panning Championship. Relive 1890's gold rush on the Llano River/ Badu Park. Pan for gold, compete for prizes/have fun. Flint Knappers making arrowheads, gem jewelry booths, food/music. Friday evening mixer with food and music for all participants. Period costumes encouraged. Llano Chamber of Commerce at 325-247-5354 or on the web at llanochamber.com/rendezvous.html

October 5,6,7 Dallas, TX InterGem Show: Dallas Market Hall The "Original" Classic International Gem & Jewelry Show inc. The worlds largest jewelry bazaar: jewels, beads, necklaces, earrings, gold, silver, opals, diamonds, settings and much, much more.

October 13 & 14 North Texas Earth Science Fair. EMGI Center at Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane, Dallas, TX 75244. 10 - 5:00 both days, free admission, quality mineral, fossil and gem dealers,exhibits, free arrowhead for scouts, Teacher Outreach, Raffle, Geocash, Mineral and Fossil ID. Nick Theis 972-242-2634 or n2theis@gmail.com

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



FIRST CLASS MAIL

To:

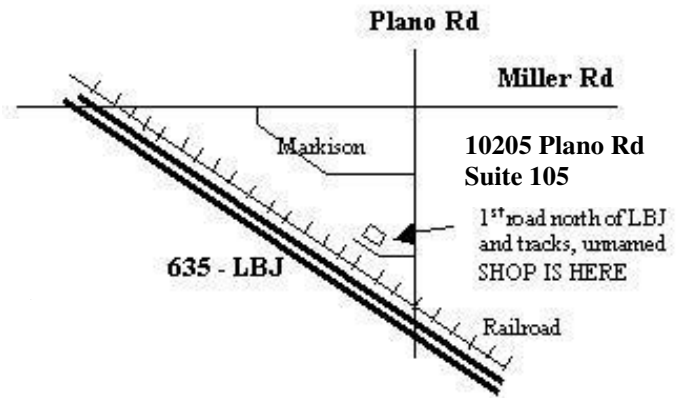
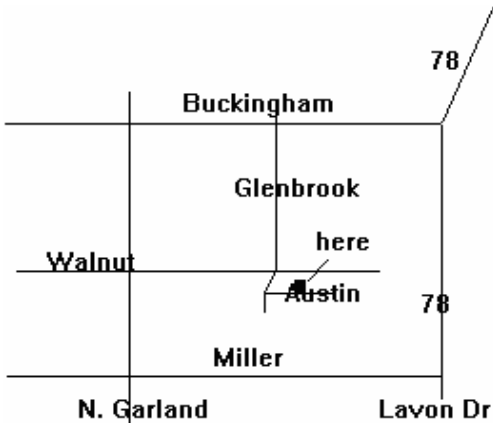
- 1st place SCFMS 2006 small bulletins
- 9th place AFMS 2006 small bulletins
- 3rd place SCMS 2005 small bulletins
- 3rd place, AFMS 2005 small bulletins
- 1st place SCFMS 2004 small bulletins
- HM AFMS 2004 small bulletins
- 2nd place SCFMS 2003 small bulletins

Next Meeting: September 6th, 2007 at Garland Women's Activity Building, 7:30 PM

PLEASANT OAKS GEM and MINERAL CLUB OF DALLAS

Meeting Map

Joint Club Shop Map



MEETINGS

First Thursday of each month, 7:30 PM
 Garland Women's Activities Building
 713 Austin, Garland, TX
 (Northeast corner of Austin & Glenbrook)

Member of

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

MEMBERSHIP

Single Adult: \$16.50, Junior: \$5.00
 Family: \$27.50
 (plus badge fee for new members)

Affiliated with

American Federation of Mineral Societies