

# Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

## Chips and Chatter

April 7, 2011  
Vol. 45, Issue 4

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### Meetings etc.

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Check our website [www.pogmc.org](http://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 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**

# *March 2011 Minutes from the Secretary*

POGM Secretary: Lee Elms

## March 3, 2011

**President:** The March meeting was called to order at 7:35pm by President Del Grady. The Pledge to the flag was led by Mark Carter.

**Secretary Report:** The January minutes, as presented in the Chips and Chatter, were unanimously accepted. There were not any minutes for February because the meeting was snowed out.

**Treasurers' Report:** The opening and ending balance was stated as were the expenses and income. The report was unanimously approved.

**Sunshine Report:** We were all delighted to see Wanda Fitzgerald at our meeting this evening.

## **Old Business:**

**Dues:** The 2011 dues are now past due at this point. Among our most recent honorary members we include Wanda Fitzgerald and Bob and Jerry Parker.

**Science Fair Report:** The Science Fair was Saturday, February 26th, and three of the judges were represented by Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club members. They looked at thirty (30) of the projects and selected three to review and choose the winner of the POGM 1<sup>st</sup> place award. POGM 1<sup>st</sup> place winner was Taylor Volesky; a young lady whose project showed the different layers of lava flows of the New Mexico volcano. Taylor was the recipient of POGM \$100 gift certificate to Natures Gallery. Of the three projects selected from which the POGM winner would emerge, the two remaining projects were by young men who each received Honorable Mention Award Certificates for their projects.

## **New Business:**

**InterGem:** Del made a printout of the InterGem rules for us to look at and discuss and then vote on at our April meeting.

**SCFMS Annual Meeting:** We appointed Ling Shurtz as our Club Delegate to represent the club at the Federation Show in Alpine, Texas. She will be getting a re-imbusement for the traveling expenses there and back.

**Our Program:** Mark Carter gave a talk about all the equipment we have that will be auctioned off to raise funds for the club. We need to spread the word about the equipment. Don and Mark took pictures of everything to be put on the internet and they will have a reserve price on them. The equipment has very few hours of use on them and is in good condition. There are also books and magazines to be put up for auction.

The raffle was held and we again thanked everyone for their contributions to the raffle table each month.

The meeting was adjourned at 9pm.

## *Motovative Quotations*

*What seems to us as bitter trials are often blessings in disguise.*

*- Oscar Wilde*

*In order to succeed, your desire for success should be greater than your fear of failure.*

*- Bill Cosby*

## April Birthstone of the Month:

C & C Editor: Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club



Let's review the history of the words attached to diamond. Do the Indians and Greeks words have the meaning yet today? The word "Diamond" comes from Greek adamao, meaning "I tame" or "subdue." The adjective "adamas" describing the hardest know substance and thus diamonds became known as the known hardest substance.



Some diamonds were appearing in the 13th century European in jewelry, along with pearls gold. They became larger and more plentiful by the 16th century when along came diamond faceting, which made them more brilliant and beautiful, thus making it the sign of wealth and importance.

Diamonds: minerals created of pure carbon; they are the hardest naturally occurring gemstone which come from deep in the earth where they have experienced, over a great length of time, tremendous pressures and temperatures. There are atoms linked to atoms to create a mighty crystal of beauty. Diamonds come from clarity of colorless to opaque to black. The lightest of blue color diamonds are most valued, while most have a tinge of yellow. Because of their extreme hardness, diamonds have a great place in industrial uses, one of which is the diamond tip saw blade. The diamonds used in industry are usually of the translucent gray or brown color.

Octahedra (*a solid figure with eight plane surfaces*), dodecahedra (*having 12 sides*), and cleavage (*structural lines along which a mineral will break up*) fragments are but a few of the various shapes rough diamonds can be found. It is a shame that of all the diamonds mined, not even half of them are of a quality to be used in jewelry. But after all they are not wasted as stated previously; the spoils go into industrial uses so we still benefit from them.

The 18th century brought discoveries of deposits in Brazil, Australia, Russia, and the United States. In 1866 in South Africa, some children brought home a rock they had found. It was rather large and proved to be quite valuable. A neighbor found it quite interesting and took it to a geologist. This led to the discovery of the world's largest location of diamonds. Then in the 20th century, an American mine near Murfreesboro, Arkansas, was open for novelty public mining for a small fee.

Ref:

<http://www.costellos.com.au/diamonds/index2.html>

Britannica <http://www.answers.com/topic/diamond>

<http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=Raw+Diamond+Picture&FORM=IGRE5#focal=005a1a4ed265460e0a5c823d9259996b&furl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.starzdiamonds.com%2Fcatalog%2FDSCN5341.JPG>

### Area Clubs

Arlington G&M Club, 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month at 7:30 pm, 1408 Gibbins, Arlington, TX

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club, Garland Women's Bldg, 713 Austin, Garland, meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday each month at 7:30 pm

Lockheed-Martin Stone Steppers, 3400 Bryant-Irving Road, Ft Worth, meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:30 pm

Dallas Gem & Mineral Society, 10205 Plano Road, off of Plano Road, Dallas, TX, meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month at 7 pm

Dallas Bead Society meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month at 7:30 pm Address pending

Oak Cliff Gem & Min Society, South Hampton Community Hosp, 2929 S Hampton Road, Dallas, TX, 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month at 7 pm

Ft Worth Gem & Mineral Club, 3545 Bryan Avenue, Ft Worth, TX, meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month at 7:30 pm

Dallas Paleontological Society, EMGI (Bldg H, Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Ln, 75244), 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed each month at 7:30 pm

**Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again; like that slab you meant to cab but forgot and did a free form by mistake.**

# Refreshment Volunteers for April

**Won't you volunteer?**

**Paper products are provided. For less than the cost of a burger w/fries & a cola please elect to bring:**

**Beverage: Two or Three 2 liter Colas (assorted and a diet) and a bag of ice  
or**

**Snacks/treats: Finger Foods like Cookies or Veggie/Fruit tray .**



**Now which month did you say you would sign up for?**

**April. Snacks Anita D**

**April Beverage/Ice**

**May Snacks ??????**

**May Beverage/Ice ??????**

## Editor's Pen

C & C Editor: Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

We have some great articles in this issue of the *Chips and Chatter*. These were submitted by various members and organizations from around the greater Dallas area. They are most interesting and I am looking forward to more material to publish from you. You may submit your article/s by sending them through email me at: [anitadresner@rocketmail.com](mailto:anitadresner@rocketmail.com) or snail mail to: 3809 Skyline Drive, Rowlett, TX 75088

## Article of Interest

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

### Regional Science and Engineering Fair

The Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club applauds the efforts of all of the participants at the 2011 Regional Science and Engineering Fair with special recognition to the Pleasant Oaks Special Award winner, Taylor Volesky (Clark High School, Plano), and Pleasant Oaks Honorable Mention winners, Kailash Sivakumar (Schimelpfenig Middle School, Plano), Shishir Jessu (Coppell Middle School East, Coppell), and Caroline Hancock (Lyles Middle School, Garland).

Taylor's project, far and away the best project on geology that we have encountered at the Regional Science Fair, examined the Bandelier Tuff deposits from the Valles Caldera north of Albuquerque, NM. Not only did she examine the published data on the number of eruptions to form the various layers of tuff, she devised her own model on how the layers were deposited. Her work was extremely well done and we hope that she will be able to visit one of our meetings and explain her project.



Taylor Volesky

The honorable mention projects included a project on how sinkholes form, refraction of light, and growing purple crystals (no – not amethyst). These projects were thoughtful and showed good scientific investigation principles. I think our judges continue to be amazed at the depth of knowledge and ingenuity these young students possess.

Again, congratulations to all the Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club Science Fair special award winners.

Photo by Don Shurtz, POGMC



# SCFMS Articles of Interest

C & C Editor: Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

For those not familiar with South Central Federation of Mineral Societies, here is a brief of why we are a member under their umbrella and why we should be eager to participate in their sponsored activities:

**SOUTH CENTRAL FEDERATION of MINERAL SOCIETIES:** Who or What is this?

They keep us informed on the various Land Management Bills going before the senate and house so we may stand up and make our voices heard; as rockhounds, people of these United States, having rights to walk, view, and yes, within reason, collect a handful of rocks, gems, minerals or fossils.

Annual SCFMS silent auction for the federation endowment funds is a must in order to keep the fund growing as only the interest on the funds can be used to support activities of the Federation. This is done through donations of hobby related items, which are sorely needed. Please consider donating an item to this cause!

Liability Insurance to club outings, and other events of a nature related to our hobby, are offered at a group rate as members under their umbrella.

Yearly editor and webmaster contest regarding content is offered for them to participate in. It not only is to recognize them but to also feature your club member's activity both at meetings and especially in the club newsletter. When your article is selected you also win a plaque, trophy, or honorable recognition for your article. Along with this challenge there is educational information offered up to help them be better at the job they have volunteered to accept.

Anytime you see SCFMS on an article please STOP and take time to READ what it has to say. It could make a difference in how, what, and where rockhounds may continue their hobby in the field or even influence us having rocks, gems, and minerals to work on in our own home shops. SCFMS link: <http://www.scfms.net/>

**SCFMS PURPOSE:** To promote popular interest and education in the various earth sciences, in particular those hobbies dealing with the art of lapidaries and the science of minerals, fossils, as well as their associated fields. To cooperate with educational and scientific institutions or other groups engaged in increasing knowledge in the earth sciences. To cooperate with or become members of similar Federations in the United States and elsewhere. To assist in the formation of earth sciences societies in localities where public interest justifies their formation.

**SCFMS ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION:** The annual silent auction will be held during the SCFMS Show and Convention, April 15-17, 2011. Donations are greatly welcomed and needed. Rocks, fossils, minerals, jewelry and hobby related items are among the items needed. Proceeds from the silent auction go into the South Central Federation Endowment Fund.

For precise instructions on donations' follow this link: <http://www.scfms.net/> , scroll down to "Introduction", then go to the last line in that article and click on " Link to Current SCFMS Newsletter(PDF Format) updated 01/5/2011" or you may Contact Ed Ries at 806-438-7494. Or at: [edories8@yahoo.com](mailto:edories8@yahoo.com).

**SCFMS ANNUAL MEETING:** The Federation's next annual meeting will be held on April 16, 2011, at 1:00 pm hosted by the CHIHUAHUAN DESERT, ALPINE, TEXAS. You are invited to A FIELD TRIP:

WOODWARD RANCH: Wednesday, April 13, 2011, Woodward Ranch, Hwy. 118 south of Alpine; about a mile past a border patrol station. Watch for ranch sign on right. Call for info on hunting at ranch or a trip to Needle Peak (by Big Bend National Park). Cost depends on number of people going. Please call Trey or Jan Woodward at 432-364-2271 or e-mail [paradiseranch5@yahoo.com](mailto:paradiseranch5@yahoo.com) for more information.

BADLANDS FOSSILS: Tour Museum and dig sites by paleontologist Ken Barnes, located between Lajitas and Terlingua. Call 432-371-2445 to schedule a time. This will be an easier trip.

Ref: <http://www.scfms.net/> and C&C Editor

## *Upcoming Events of Interest*

C & C Editor: Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

The InterGem Show: April 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, and May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. Dallas Market Hall. Open hours are Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 12 noon – 6:00 pm; Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am – 6:00 pm; Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm.

## *President Message*

Del Grady: President Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Upcoming event rules vote. Please review these rules and be prepared to vote on them at the April meeting.

### INTERGEM RULES

- I. THE PURPOSE OF THE CLUB PARTICIPATING IN INTERGEM IS TO PROMOTE THE CLUB AND TO ATTRACT NEW MEMBERS.
- II. A BONUS OF PARTICIPATION IN INTERGEM IS A CHANCE FOR CLUB MEMBERS TO SHOWCASE THEIR HOBBY TO THE PUBLIC; not to resell purchased merchandise in direct competition with paying vendors. Being able to sell your hobby produced items is the extra bonus.
- III. EACH CLUB MEMBER WHO HELPS SET UP THE INTERGEM SHOW IS ENTITLED TO AN EQUAL SHARE OF TABLE SPACE THAT IS PROVIDED BY INTERGEM.
  - A. Normal setup is Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning.
  - B. Working one day is one share of table space and working two days is two shares of table space per club member. Non-members may help set up, but cannot have a table space.
  - C. Booth size and/or table space is dependent upon InterGem and is out of the club's control. Booth modification must meet InterGem standards.
  - D. Two or more members can pool their table space shares into one larger space.
- IV. SHOW HOURS ARE FRIDAY 12:00 NOON – 6:00 PM, SATURDAY 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, AND SUNDAY 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM.
  - A. Table space must be stocked and manned during all show hours.
  - B. If you are unable to open, attend, and/or close your space during show hours; you need to make arrangements to have another member cover for you.
- V. MERCHANDISE OFFERED FOR SALE SHOULD BE HOBBY RELATED AND PRODUCED, COLLECTED, AND/OR MODIFIED BY THE CLUB MEMBER SELLING IT.
  - A. Material purchased for resale should be kept to a minimum. If we upset the paying vendors we could lose our chance to participate in the show.
  - B. Space permitting, extra space may be allotted for actively demonstrating members.

## *Facts of U.S. in History*

The first coin minted in the United States was a silver dollar.  
It was issued on October 15, 1794.

## 2011 Shows

### April

**9 LITTLE ROCK, AR:** Annual swap; Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral & Geology Society; Sat 9-5; Burns Park, Elder Johnson Pavilion, I-40 exit 150 (Military Dr.) north, take the first road to the west; free admission; rocks, minerals, fossils; contact Mike Austen, (501) 868-4553; email: [steelpony@aol.com](mailto:steelpony@aol.com)

**9-10 ABILENE, TX:** Central TX G&MS Show & Sale; Abilene Civic Center, 1100 N 6<sup>th</sup>; Sat 10-6 & Sun 10-5; adult \$3, child \$1.50; geode cracking, fossils, minerals, gems, jewelry, lapidary demons, , beads, tools, supplies, rough; contact Betty Scarborough, 422 CR 606, Tuscola, TX 79562, (325) 668-2374; email: [waltswife1029@yahoo.com](mailto:waltswife1029@yahoo.com); Website: [www.txol.net/rockclub](http://www.txol.net/rockclub)

**9-10 RICHARDSON, TX:** The Bead Market; Richardson Civic Center Wholesale & Bead Show, 411 W Arapaho; Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4; free admission; dealers, gemstones, pearls, glass, lampwork, PMC, findings, silver, tools, books; contact Rebekah Wills, (903) 240-7198; email: [rebekah@thebeadmarket.net](mailto:rebekah@thebeadmarket.net); Website: [www.thebeadmarket.net](http://www.thebeadmarket.net)

**15-17 ALPINE, TX:** "Alpine Agate Festival" Show; Chihuahuan Desert Gem & Mineral Club; Alpine Civic Center, Hwy 90W and 13<sup>th</sup> Street N; Fri & Sat 9-6, Sun 11-5; free admission; South Central Federation convention, grand prize, door prizes, silent auctions, field trips, kids' corner, demo dealers; contact Mary Brogan, PO Box 1111, Alpine, TX 79831, (432) 386-2340; email: [marybrogan@rocketmail.com](mailto:marybrogan@rocketmail.com); Website: [www.cdgmc.org](http://www.cdgmc.org)

**16-17 WACO, TX:** Waco Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show; TX State Technical College, Industrial Tech Bldg, Crest Drive, off I-35, north of Waco; Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5; adults \$5 (both days); contact Karen Wood, 2315 Colcord, Waco, TX 76707, (254) 755-7274; email: [kwood@hot.rr.com](mailto:kwood@hot.rr.com); Website: [www.wacogemandmineral.org](http://www.wacogemandmineral.org)

**23-24 JACKSON, MS:** "Greater Southern Event" Show & Sale; Mobile Rock & Mineral Society, Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society, Nature's Society of Majestic Arts; Trademart Bldg, Mississippi Fairgrounds; Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; dealers, gemstones, minerals, fossils, beads, crystals, rare coins, rough & cut stones, finished jewelry, tools, lapidary supplies, stone carvings, loose precious stones, pearls, gem & gold mining, knapping, faceting, opals, jewelry repairs, demos; contact Sharon McClanhan/Stann Bennett, (601) 898-0407; email: [stan@tompkinsdesign.com](mailto:stan@tompkinsdesign.com)

**30-1 LUBBOCK, TX:** 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual G&M Show; Lubbock G&M Society; Lubbock Memorial Civic Center, 1501 Mac Davis Lane; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; adults (13+) \$4, seniors (65+) \$3, ages 6-12 \$2, under 6 free with adult; wire-wrapped stones, precious stones, jewelry, minerals, fossils, rough rock, dealers, demonstrators, exhibits, hourly door prizes, silent auction, grand prizes; contact Archie Scott, 2709 Belvedere Road, Levelland, TX 79336, (806) 894-1584; email: [archie.scott73@yahoo.com](mailto:archie.scott73@yahoo.com)

### May

**21-22 MURFREESBORO, AR:** Crater of Diamonds State Park Retail Show; Diamond Discovery Center, 209 State Park Road; Sat & Sun 8:30-4:30; free admit; wire wrapping demons, rock and mineral identification, diamond hunting (adults \$7, children \$4); contact Margi Jenks, 209 State Park Road, Murfreesboro, AR 71958, (870) 285-3116; email: [margaret.jenks@arkansas.gov](mailto:margaret.jenks@arkansas.gov); Website: [www.craterofdiamondsstatepark.com](http://www.craterofdiamondsstatepark.com)

### June

**3-5 TULSA, OK:** Gem Faire Inc Show; Expo Square/Central Park Hall, 4145 E 21<sup>st</sup> Street; Fri 12-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; \$7 weekend pass; contact Yooy Nelson, (503) 252-8300; email: [info@gemfaire.com](mailto:info@gemfaire.com); Website: [www.gemfaire.com](http://www.gemfaire.com)

### July

**19-20 TAHLEQUAH, OK:** Tahlequah Rock & Mineral Society Show; Tahlequah Community Bldg, 300 W 1<sup>st</sup> Street; Fri 9-6, Sat 9-5; free admission; rocks, minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, demonstrations, auction, children's activities, educational displays; contact Sara Brasel, (918) 458-0801; email: [crosstimbersrd@earthlink.net](mailto:crosstimbersrd@earthlink.net)

**20-21 LIVE OAK, TX:** The Bead Market Wholesale & Retail Show; Live Oak Civic Center; 8101 Pat Booker Road; Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4; glass, gemstones, pearls, lampwork, PMC, vintage beads and buttons, jewelry, books, tools, silver, findings; contact Rebekah Wills, (903) 240-7198; e-mail: [rebekah@thebeadmarket.net](mailto:rebekah@thebeadmarket.net); Web site: [www.thebeadmarket.net](http://www.thebeadmarket.net)

**27-28 MOUNTAIN HOME, AR:** Ozark Earth Science Gem Show, Mineral & Fossil Club; Senior Center in Cooper Park, 1101 Spring St.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; door prizes, mineral and gem displays, interactive children's events, minerals, fossils, handmade jewelry, demonstrations; contact Edward Hakesley, 821-1 Alexis Circle, Mountain Home, AR 72653, (870) 424-0956; email: [edscamp3@yahoo.com](mailto:edscamp3@yahoo.com); Website: [www.ozarkearthscience.org](http://www.ozarkearthscience.org)

### September

**3-4 ARLINGTON, TX:** Arlington Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show; Arlington Convention Center, 1200 Ballpark Way; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$6, seniors and children \$3, Scouts in uniform free; silent auctions, Gem ID, Kids' Korner, door prizes, gem, lapidary and jewelry displays and demonstrations, Rock Food Table; contact Jack Spinks, 209 Overlook Drive, Midlothian, TX 76065, (214) 335-9452; email: [jlspinks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jlspinks@sbcglobal.net); Website: [www.agemclub.org](http://www.agemclub.org)

**10-11 SILOAM SPRINGS, AR:** NW Arkansas G&MS Fall Swap; clubhouse parking area, Hwy 43 N; Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5; free admit; gem wash, auction Saturday; contact David Leininger, (479) 263-1424; email: [hulagrub@aol.com](mailto:hulagrub@aol.com); Website: [www.nwarockhounds.org](http://www.nwarockhounds.org)

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL



To:

5<sup>th</sup> Place AFMS 2007 small bulletins  
1<sup>st</sup> place SCFMS 2006 small bulletins  
9<sup>th</sup> place AFMS 2006 small bulletins  
3<sup>rd</sup> place SCMS 2005 small bulletins  
3<sup>rd</sup> place, AFMS 2005 small bulletins  
1<sup>st</sup> place SCFMS 2004 small bulletins  
HM AFMS 2004 small bulletins  
2<sup>nd</sup> place SCFMS 2003 small bulletins

+++++++ **April 7, 2011; 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)

### **Program Presentation**

Wyoming "Fishing" Trip

### **Member of**

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

### **Affiliated with**

American Federation of Mineral Societies