



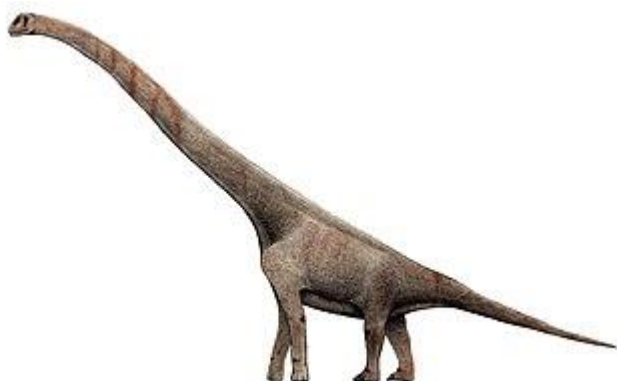
## The Texas State Dinosaur – a Dinosaur of Many Names

By Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

Once upon a time, a long time ago, the Dallas Gem and Mineral Society and the Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club had joint ownership of a club rock shop. In those long ago days, I was one of the shop supervisors. One day as I was cleaning up just before closing, I came across a Certificate presented to the Dallas Gem and Mineral Society from the State of Texas acknowledging their help in introducing and passing a state resolution proclaiming Pleurocoelus as the official state dinosaur of Texas. The resolution was passed in 1997.

So since 1997, Pleurocoelus has been the state dinosaur, right? Maybe not. Pleurocoelus (gigantic reptile) received its name from Othniel C. Marsh in 1888 based on bones found near Muirkirk, MD. In 1903, an argument was put forward that Pleurocoelus really was Astrodon (star tooth) which had been originally identified from teeth in 1858 from the Arundel Formation at Swampoodle MD. (near Muirkirk) As with many arguments in paleontology, the results remained ambiguous. However, it was agreed that both Pleurocoelus and Astrodon were members of the Brachiosauridae (arm lizards) clade (family).

In 2007, Peter Rose of SMU analysis of bones (rear leg and neck vertebrae indicated that the bones from Jones Ranch near Glen rose were not correctly identified as Pleurocoelus, and were not even of the Brachiosauridae clade. He proposed that they were a new species which he named Paluxysaurus (Paluxy River lizard) jonesi of the Somphospondylan clade. In 2007 a resolution changing the name of the state dinosaur to Paluxysaurus jonesi was introduced and passed in 2009 by the State of Texas Legislature.



So, since 2009, we have the same state dinosaur but now named Paluxysaurus jonesi, right? Well, kind of. In 2012, Paleontologists from SMU, based on their continued analysis of bones from the Jones Ranch near Glen Rose, TX decided that Paluxysaurus was really of the clade Somphospondyli, genus Sauroposeidon, and hence should be named Sauroposeidon proteles (reptile of Poseidon, the Greek god of the sea and earthquakes). An official state resolution to change the state dinosaur name to Sauroposeidon proteles has never been introduced or passed

by the State of Texas, but if you look up the state dinosaurs on Wikipedia or other online reference sources, you will find the Texas State dinosaur as Sauroposeidon proteles (originally Paluxysaurus jonesi). On other sites, you may find either Paluxysuarus or Sauroposeidon listed.

### Reference:

Mistaken Identity: Texas State Dinosaur Needs Name Change, Live Science, <https://www.livescience.com/>,

Paluxysaurus jonesi, Deviant Art, <https://www.deviantart.com/>

Sauroposeidon, the State Dinosaur of Texas, Authentic Texas (The Heritage Magazine of Texas), <https://authentic texas.com/>

Various topics, Wikipedia, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki>

Picture: Sauroposeidon proteles, picture by [Levi bernardo](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki), <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki>. from Wikimedia Commons, used under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/) license.

## A Message from Roger's Desk

Roger Burford SCFM President  
From the March-April SCFMS Newsletter

I hope the month of March finds all well, it's been a little rocky in the Burford household with Liz's back and then her foot acting up.

All will settle down though eventually. I am glad to announce that our federation has grown by another club with the addition of a new club in Arkansas. Your Federation is a living being and is always changing with the addition of new officers and the unfortunate passing of some of our older members. Now is a good time to take a pause and reflect on what we can learn from those who have been in our hobby the longest.

We are never too old or smart to learn something new and for us in Baton Rouge, the passing of Joe Samrow our oldest member at 97 reminds us of what we have lost and the questions we never got the answer to.

As we head into Spring, take time to spend with some of the more seasoned members of your club and think also of what you can add to your Federation. This will be an election year for us and we can always use new blood.

I need two members to volunteer to be part of the nominating committee. We will be voting for all positions except Treasurer and Newsletter Editor. Take a look at the new by-laws for changes to the selection of offices and let's pick the best representatives for your Federation.

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## From the Desk of the {AFMS} President

Cheryl Neary AFMS President 2022-2023  
From the April AFMS Newsletter

I bought a sign years ago, one for my boss (more for him, to remind him how I feel) and one for me that reads: "Don't get so busy making a living that you forget to make a life." (Dolly Parton)

I find this saying to have a great deal of value. Some may disagree with me, but I believe we need to live our lives first. It isn't all about making money -- it's about making memories. Don't get me wrong. Yes, making a living is quite important and in fact necessary, but in the end, the bills eventually get paid, and what price did you pay for that to happen?

Again, you may say what does this have to do with the AFMS - and my answer is plenty!

I am talking about making memories at your Federations' and the AFMS conventions! To make memories you must be at a certain place at a certain time with certain people. We have dates in the newsletter for the various Federation conventions. Please note that the seven federations' dates are in a time frame of five (5) months. Boy, that calendar I spoke about last month can be filled before you know it!

CANYWYMTMIFLLA – This is almost like the word supercalifragilisticexpialidocious – not quite – since the letters in bold are merely the letters of the states in the order in which the conventions will be held in that five-month period!

- California will be hosting their convention in Lodi, CA. This will happen June 23rd – 25th.
- EFMLS will be following shortly after with a convention to be held in Syracuse, NY the weekend of July 7th – 9th.
- RMFMS will be hosting their convention in Casper, WY July 14th – 16th.
- NFMS is hosting the AFMS convention in Billings, MT from August 3rd – 6th.
- MWF will be hosting their convention in Howell, MI on September 16th – 17th.
- SFMS will be hosting their convention in Port St. Lucie, FL on Oct. 27th – 29th.
- SCFMS will be hosting their convention in New Orleans, LA – the date is still to be determined!

Back to the nonsensical word supercalifragilisticexpialidocious, which refers to something extraordinary. The earliest known written record was in a column by Helen Herman in the Syracuse Daily Orange (Syracuse University) in 1931. Yes, the same city where EFMLS will be attending their convention this year! (continued on page 3)

## FEDERATION NEWS (continued)

When you plan to attend any of the conventions, you just may have a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious time! Why? Mingling with people, seeing great displays, and purchasing great specimens for your collection, what else could you ask for? How about attending a meeting (or more!) and enjoying a banquet and/or the breakfast with editors and webmasters! Remember, the host clubs spend a great deal of time trying to make each convention special for the attendees. Why not reward them with your presence!

Thanks to Linda Jaeger, AFMS editor, for a great newsletter. She must have been one of the only ones that read my February message, which stated I would appreciate it if any one of the readers would write an article for the newsletter about a mineral, fossil, gem, or lapidary piece that starts with the same letter as the month of the newsletter. For instance – if you are reading this article now, it is the April edition. The next newsletter will be in May and the month starts with M, just like in March! Your article needs to be sent to Linda at AFMSeditor@gmail.com by the 5th of the month of April. Again, I challenge anyone to do it for M, J, J, A, S, O, N, and D!

Back to the saying, “Don’t get so busy making a living that you forget to make a life.” My boss, owner of the company I work for, would be described as a workaholic. That is until he was blessed two years ago in a matter of a month’s time with three grandchildren, one from each of his children. He recently commented to me that being able to spend time with them was very important to him. I know I value the time I spend with my grandson, now 30

months old (and another one on the way)! The arrangement I have with my boss is that I work four ten-hour days and am off on Fridays to babysit. I enjoy the times with Miles (my grandson) and the only thing that saddens me is that I will miss some of those Fridays with him while attending the conventions. Thankfully, there is FaceTime! While I will not be with him on those Fridays, I will be thinking of him and perhaps talking about him with the various people I see at the conventions. So be prepared, you might just be one of them!

For the AFMS Convention, Lucy and Jean, with whom I traveled to both Wyoming in 2021 and Louisiana in 2022 for the AFMS conventions, will again be traveling with me. We plan on leaving Long Island (New York) early on Monday, July 31st and reaching Billings, Montana by Wednesday night, August 2nd.

As of the writing of this article, Doug True has informed me that Bear Canyon is locked in for a field trip on Monday, 8/7/23. More details to follow about this trip and the other two trips being set up.

So, depending on the field trips and the dates, we will plan on visiting: Craters of the Moon in Idaho, Crater Lake and Lucy’s sister in Oregon, and Glacier National Park in the northern portion of Montana. I need to return to work by 8/21. With that being said, I plan on returning to Long Island no later than 8/19 but ideally by 8/17 – so on the 18th I will see my grandsons and babysit!

That, my friends, is having a life!

### VISIT AN AREA CLUB

[Arlington Gem & Mineral Club](#), meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, 1408 Gibbins, Arlington, TX  
[Cowtown Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club](#), meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm, CERA 3300 Bryant Irvin Rd. Fort Worth  
[Dallas Bead Society](#), meets 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month at 10:00 am at The Point at CC Young, 4847 W. Lawther Dr., Dallas, TX  
[Dallas Gem & Mineral Society](#), meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7 pm, American Legion, 10205 Plano Rd, Dallas (next to their shop)  
[Dallas Paleontological Society](#), meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. of each month at 7:00 pm, Brookhaven College, Building H, 3939 Valley View Lane,  
[Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club](#), meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, 3545 Bryan Avenue, Ft. Worth  
[Oak Cliff Gem & Min Soc.](#), meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 3839 W. Keist Blvd, Dallas,  
[Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club](#), meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thur. of each month at 7:15 PM, Bradfield Recreation Center, 1146 Castle Dr, Garland,  
[Wild West Bead Society](#), meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm, Wild Beads, 1124 S. Bowen Road, Arlington, TX

## PLEASANT OAKS GEM AND MINERAL CLUB DIRECTION QUESTIONNAIRE

Attached as a separate page (printed Chips and Chatter) or as a separate file (email Chips and Chatter) is the 2023 Club Direction Questionnaire. Please take a few minutes to fill in the survey. POGMC IS YOUR CLUB - YOUR INPUT MATTERS. Email the completed survey to Joe Vulk (vulkjoe@aol.com) or bring it to the next (April) club meeting.

## Shows and Activities – Upcoming Show and Activity Dates

Check with the show contact to verify the show status

### April 2023

- 1 – 2 APR, San Antonio, TX, Southwest G&MS, Morris Center at Joe Freeman Coliseum, website: [www.swgms.org](http://www.swgms.org)
- 1 – 2 APR, Siloam Springs, AR, Northwest Arkansas G&MS, Siloam Springs Community Building, Facebook: NWAGMS

### May 2023

- 6 – 7 MAY, Waco, TX Waco G&MC, Waco Convention Center, [www.WacoGemandMinerals.org](http://www.WacoGemandMinerals.org)
- 13 – 14 MAY, San Antonio, TX, Southwest G&MS, Wonderland of Americas Mall, [www.swgms.org](http://www.swgms.org)
- 27 – 28 MAY, Fort Worth, TX, Fort Worth G&MC, Will Rogers Memorial Center, [www.fortworthgemandmineralclub.org](http://www.fortworthgemandmineralclub.org)

Ref: Rock & Gem Show Dates, <https://www.rockngem.com/ShowDatesFiles/ShowDatesDisplayAll.php?ShowState=ALL>

Ref: January-February 2023 SCFMS Newsletter

## Bench Tip from Brad Smith

By permission of the author, Brad Smith. Received as an email from Brad Smith. Not for commercial use

### CUTTING MOLDS

Cutting molds is easier and more precise with a sharp blade. A new Xacto blade is sufficient for cutting RTV molds but is usually not sharp enough for vulcanized rubber molds. For that, it's best to use scalpel blades available from most jewelry supply companies. The #11 blade is triangle shaped, and the #12 is hawksbill shaped. I find the hawksbill is particularly nice for cutting the registration keys of the mold.



### USING YOUR THUMB

When using multiple bits in a Foredom, we often have to deal with several different shaft sizes - the usual 3/32 inch burs, the larger 1/8 inch shafts sizes, and of course the many

different sizes of drills. For some reason, I really dislike having to turn the key multiple times to open or close the jaws of the handpiece chuck.

So I have two ways to speed up that task. For opening up the jaws, I just remember "four", the number of turns I have to make to open the chuck just enough from the 3/32 bur shaft size to the larger 1/8 bur shaft size.



For closing the jaws around a smaller shaft, there's a neat trick. Hold the new bit in the center of the open jaws of the chuck, put your thumb lightly onto the outer toothed collar of the chuck, and gently start up the Foredom. As the chuck turns, it will naturally tighten the jaws around the bur shaft or the drill bit. Then all you have to do is a final tightening with the key.

Learn New Jewelry Tricks and Techniques with Brad's Jewelry-Making Books

[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

Smart Solutions for Your Jewelry Making Problems



## CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2023

President: Joe Vulk  
1st VP, Programs: Carolyn Grady  
2nd VP, Field Trips: Julie Wilson  
Secretary: Amy Vulk  
Treasurer: Ling Shurtz  
Editor: Don Shurtz  
Contact us by e-mail: [don.shurtz@gmail.com](mailto:don.shurtz@gmail.com) or  
L.SHURTZ@gmail.com

## Minutes of the February 2, 2023 Meeting

Thanks to Carolyn, Ling, and Hatt for providing refreshments.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm on February 2, 2023.

Ling gave the treasurer's report. The treasurer's report was voted approved by the members present.

### Old Business:

Joe polled members present regarding the reimbursement to any member who wishes compensation for out-of-pocket expenses for items benefiting the club. He suggested that expenses could be reimbursed from club funds upon approval by at least two officers and, if possible, submittal of a receipt. However, the ruling was not submitted for a vote, so considered tabled.

### New Business:

There was a lengthy discussion as to the direction our club should take in the future. Items discussed were: participation in shows, membership, fundraising, etc. Numerous ideas were presented and it was obvious we would not come to a conclusion within the time limits of the meeting. This issue was tabled.

The program provided by Carolyn was an image of a large fluorite crystal and crayons for coloring the image. Due to the length of other discussions, we did not have much time to do this project or the additional activity that Carolyn had planned.

We planned the upcoming March get-together and St. Patrick's Day potluck.

The business meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

We had the raffle drawing

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I was glad that we avoided the foul and possibly dangerous weather we had on our scheduled meeting night, March 2. The postponement to the following Thursday, March 9 worked out well. I hope everyone enjoyed the St. Patrick's Day social and meal we shared that night - I did.

There was so much discussion in earlier meetings about what our club is all about that, as mentioned before, I have composed a questionnaire intended to determine the Direction in which our club is going. Don has included a copy here-in. I ask that each member have their say and please answer the questionnaire so we can best satisfy our membership going forward. Please fill it out and bring it to our April 6 meeting. I will collect them and tabulate your responses into a report. I will provide the report at our May get-together.

Easter is a week or so away. If you have a stone egg, please show it off to us at the 6 April meeting. If you can - identify the make-up of your egg(s), its origin, and the lapidary method used to make it. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Easter.

Joe Vulk

## VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

### APRIL MEETING

Our next meeting will be Thursday, April 6 at the Bradfield Recreation Center, 1146 Castle Dr, Garland, TX 75040. The meeting will start at 7:15 and end at 8:45. The presentation will be a hands-on project. Ling will lead a short course on making a Gem Tree. If you have jewelry tools, particularly jewelry long nose pliers, please bring them to the meeting.

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# PLEASANT OAKS GEM and MINERAL CLUB of DALLAS



**Meetings**  
First Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be April 6 at the Bradfield Recreation Center, 1146 Castle Drive, Garland, TX 75040

**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. Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas is a Section 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization

**CHIPS AND CHATTER**  
Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club  
c/o 4004 Dublin Rd.  
Allen, TX 75002-6526

To

**VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME**  
Our next meeting will be Thursday, April 6, 2023, starting at 7:15

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