

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter



August 2006
Vol. 40 Issue 8

Features

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Workshop, Meeting, etc.

- August Meeting - meet Bethany Carson, winner of the Pleasant Oaks Special Award at the Science Fair
- Check out our web site for a color version of the Chips and Chatter
- Open Shop on Monday evening and Saturday morning

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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

Monthly Meeting: August 3rd at 7:30 PM
Garland Women’s Activities Building
713 Austin, Garland, TX

Presentation

Show Preparations

Show & Tell

Tumbled Rocks and Fossils

Club Officers for 2006

President: Beth Hollingsworth, 972-226-1543
1st VP: Charles Black, 940-381-6913
2nd VP: Brenda Dowell, 972-771-9502
Treasurers: Delbert Grady, 972-235-6575
Secretary: Renee Wofford
Editor: Don Shurtz 972-509-2821
E-mail: don.shurtz@gmail.com
4004 Dublin Road
Parker, TX 75002-6526

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club Minutes

Minutes – July, 2006 General Meeting

The July meeting started with a Pot-Luck dinner and then continued into the first “hands-on” meetings. No club business was transacted and no formal minutes were taken. Following the pot-luck dinner, Mark Carter gave a short presentation on minerals and where to purchase books on the subject, Ling Shurtz gave a short presentation on the Jewelry Trade and information about pearls and materials for making pearl strands, and Donnette Wagner talked briefly about a new book, Geodes – Nature’s Treasures by Brad L. Cross and June Culp Zeitner and her involvement in the project by being one of the main photographers.

Upcoming Shows

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Aug 12-13 | Baton Rouge, LA | Baton Rouge G&MS, Frat. Order of Police Lodge, 225-687-3864 |
| Aug 12-13 | Addison, TX | Bead Market, Addison Conf. Centre, rebekah@thebeadmarket.net |
| Aug 16-20 | Nashville, TN | AFMS Convention |
| Aug 19-20 | Bossier City, LA | SCFMS Convention and Ark-LA-Tex G&MS, Bossier City Civic Center, 318-746-8735 |
| Sep 2-4 | Arlington, TX | Arlington G&MC, Arlington Convention Center, 817-277-2286 |
| Sep 2-4 | Silver City, NM | Grant County G&MS, Silver City Rec. Center, 505-388-4054 |
| Sep 22-24 | Humble, TX | Houston G&MS, Humble Civic Center, 281-389-0377 |
| Sep 30-Oct 1 | Dennison, TX | Texoma Rockhounds, Dennison Sr. Citizen’s Center, 903-891-9602 |
| Sep 30-1 Oct | Farmers Branch, TX | Pleasant Oaks G&MC EMGI Building, Brookhaven College, 972-509-2821 |



Editor's Corner

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

What is this – a six page Chips and Chatter? When was the last time there was a 6 page Chips and Chatter? Quite frankly, I don’t think there have been less than 8 pages since I started as Editor.

But the real question of the ~~day year~~ **millennium** is what are you going to do for the show? Are you going to be at Brookhaven on Friday, September 29th for Set Up? Are you going to be helping with Tickets or the Silent Auction on Saturday and/or Sunday? Are you going to be there Sunday evening to help with breaking down the display cases and tables? I will be going back to work Monday morning with a sore back because I over-did things during tear down, but I will be there. And I will be there for set up and both days helping out. I want this show to succeed. **DO YOU?**

And speaking of wanting the show to succeed, in addition to going back to work on Monday with a sore back, I am also giving up a 10 day trip to Hawaii so I can be at the show! Now I grant you that when I go to Hawaii, I work my tail off - but then, it is Hawaii. I really do want the show to succeed.

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 at 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. Center, NW corner Walnut Hill & Midway, Dallas
Oak Cliff G&MS meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM, Ice House Arts Plaza, 1011 Brooklyn, Dallas
Fort Worth G&M Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM at 3545 Bryan Avenue, Fort Worth, TX.

Question of the Month – Apache Tears

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

From the July issue: What are Apache Tears?

Apache Tears are a nodular form of obsidian. Apache Tears can be as small as a pea or as large as a softball. Nodules of obsidian can be found in many locations, but to a purist, Apache Tears come from only one location, that being below the cliffs near Superior, AZ.

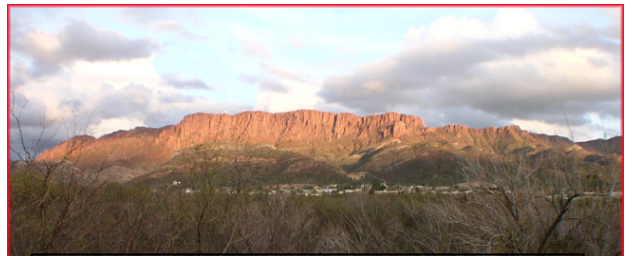


Apache Tear

In the 1870's about 75 Apache were sought for raiding settlements in Arizona. Military and volunteers followed the trail of some stolen cattle and found the Apache camp. The next morning they attacked the Apache. It is said that 50 of the Apache were killed by the first volley of gunfire. The remaining Apache were chased back into the hills. The Apache found themselves hemmed in by the military and by cliffs. Rather than fall to the military, the Apache chose to ride to their death by riding their horses over the cliffs. The wives and families of the Apache came to the base of the cliffs to mourn their lost men. The legend is that their tears turned to stone as the tears fell to the earth forming the Apache Tears. Another take on this legend is that the Indian Gods took the tears shed by the women and put them inside the black stones. Thus only the obsidian nodules found at the base of Big Pacacho or Apache Leap Mountain are considered to be the true Apache Tears. I suspect, however, that the vast majority of the Apache

Tears available at rock shops and shows are from many locations other than near Apache Leap Mountain.

Apache Tears are considered to be good luck charms – strange for a stone with such a tragic legend about its formation. People who possess an Apache Tear are also said to never be required to cry again as the Apache maidens have all ready cried for you. Apache Tears are said to bring the forces of nature into balance, to bring success in business, to promote clear vision, and to enhance psychic powers.



Big Pacacho or Apache Leap Mountain

As Apache Tears are a form of obsidian, their chemical composition is primarily Silicon Dioxide (SiO₂). Most Apache Tears are dark in color, the coloring agent being iron oxide. Some Apache Tears are lighter in color and some are even translucent.

If you should decide to cut or grind an Apache Tear, one internet site warns that the Tears often have a lot of internal pressure and are prone to fracturing and even fly apart when being worked. The site recommends that they cutter wear eye protection, a good suggestion for cutting any stone.

Ref:

Apache Tears, <http://www.mtlilygems.com/Minerals/M327.html>

Apache Tears, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apache_tears

Apache Tear Drops, <http://www.llewellynencyclopedia.com/term.php?id=70>

Apache Tear Drops, http://www.firstpeople.us/FP-html-legends/Apache_Tear_Drop-Apache.html

Obsidian (Apache Tears), http://www.facetingrough.com/properties_obsidian.shtml

World's Smallest Museum, <http://www.apachetears.net/>

Question - of - the - Month for September: What are GEODES?

Chips and Chatter

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Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

August 2006

Visit our web site: www.pogmc.org



SCFMS/ARK-LA-TEX GEM & MINERAL SHOW

From the May-June SCFMS Newsletter

AUGUST 19 - 20, 2006

BOSSIER CITY, LOUISIANA

Below is a schedule of events for this Show and Convention.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 2006

8:00am Show set up-all exhibits

Must be set up by 8:00pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 2006

8:00am Editor's Awards Breakfast

10:00am Gem & Mineral Show opens

1:00pm SCFMS Annual Meeting

6:00pm Show closes

7:00pm SCFMS Awards Banquet

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2006

9:00am Rolling Rock Club Meeting

10:00am Gem & Mineral Show opens

5:00pm Show closes

5:00-8:00pm Remove display cases & Dealer move out

BE SAFE - BE WELL

WHAT'S IN THE BOTTLE?

by Don Monroe, AFMS Safety Chair
from the June/July 2006 AFMS Newsletter

In your shop, studio, garage or barn have you ever asked yourself this question? Well, I have and one situation sticks in my mind. I was putting the finishing touches on a home-built trailer that I needed to transport our basic household necessities to my first duty station when I entered the Army. A close friend came by to bid us farewell and brought with him his two-year old son and his wife. While we admired the trailer, the little boy spotted a coke bottle sitting on one of lower beams in the garage and walked over and took a swig. The little kid choked and sputtered and cried because he wanted coke. The father then asked the question "what is in the bottle". I really wasn't sure other than I thought it was a mixture of penetrating oil of some sort. My first thought was "stupid kid" and my second thought was that I was the stupid kid for having an

Chips and Chatter

Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

unknown, unmarked, substance in the wrong container. The best part of the story was that the kid was fine, and his mother eventually spoke to me again. It really did not have to turn out that way and I felt so fortunate. Now, I always try to label things.

During a recent "clean up campaign" in the silver studio where we teach I discovered several unknown solutions that I promptly threw away. Metalsmiths are notorious for trying new and/or different fluxes, pickle solutions or cleaners or most anything else that promises improved performance. It is absolutely imperative that we do not tolerate any unknown or unmarked material. We are always positive that we will remember exactly what we mixed up or re-packaged and put up on the shelf.

In the last class we taught I saw that a student was having a terrible time setting a cabochon in a simple piece of jewelry. After asking a few questions I learned that the student was using a strip of silver that he brought to class and assumed it was fine silver bezel material. It wasn't! It was sterling which we all know is more rigid and more difficult to set around a stone, particularly for a beginning student. The converse of this situation has also occurred when a student made prongs for a setting from fine silver when the project called for sterling silver. The setting was too flexible and would not hold the stone properly. Gremlins are always among us and miss-marked material can jump up when we least expect it.

Other prime areas for surprise include:

- Mixing or using the wrong solder.
- Confusing permanent markers with dry-erase markers.
- Mixing jewelry saw blades – coarse and fine.

Well, what can we do to avoid the type of problems we have been discussing? I really do not have a fool-proof solution except for attention to detail and constant alertness. What ideas do you have?

August 2006

Visit our web site: www.pogmc.org

Joint Workshop Calendar

August 2006

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|------------------|--|-----------|--|--------|---|
| | | 1 | | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | | PLEASANT OAKS Gem & Mineral Club Meeting 7:30 PM | | Open Shop 9AM - 12PM |
| 6 | Open Shop 6-9 PM | 7 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 12 |
| | | | | | | Open Shop 9AM - 12PM |
| 13 | Open Shop 6-9 PM | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| | | Dallas Gem & Mineral Club Meeting 7:00 PM | | | | Open Shop 9AM - 12PM |
| 20 | Open Shop 6-9 PM | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| | | | | | | Open Shop 9AM - 12PM |
| 27 | Open Shop 6-9 PM | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | Current plans are for Bethany Carson, the Science Fair Winner of the Pleasant Oaks Special Award, to attend our August meeting and to bring here project on Fossils of North Texas |

Shop Phone Number: 214-349-2022. For Confirmation of Dates & Times contact Brenda Dowell at 972-771-9502

September 2006

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|------------------|--|-----------|--|--------|--|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| | | | | | | Open Shop 9AM - 12PM |
| 3 | Open Shop 6-9 PM | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| | | | | PLEASANT OAKS Gem & Mineral Club Meeting 7:30 PM | | Open Shop 9AM - 12PM |
| 10 | Open Shop 6-9 PM | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| | | | | | | Open Shop 9AM - 2PM |
| 17 | Open Shop 6-9 PM | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | | Dallas Gem & Mineral Club Meeting 7:00 PM | | | | Open Shop 9AM - 12PM |
| 24 | Open Shop 6-9 PM | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| | | | | | | Show Set Up |
| | | | | | | Pleasant Oaks G&MC Show EMGI Bldg, Brookhaven College Shop Closed |
| Oct 1 | | | | | | |
| Pleasant Oaks G&MC Show EMGI Bldg, Brookhaven College Shop Closed | | | | | | |

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



FIRST CLASS MAIL

To:

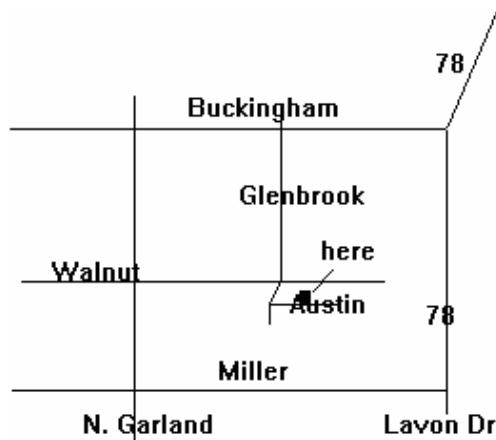
3rd place SCMS 2005 small bulletins
 3rd place, AFMS 2005 small bulletins
 1st place SCFMS 2004 small bulletins
 HM AFMS 2004 small bulletins
 2nd place SCFMS 2003 small bulletins
 9th place AFMS 2002 small bulletins
 2nd place SCFMS 2002 small bulletins

Next Meeting: August 3rd 2006 at Garland Women's Activity Building, 7:30 PM

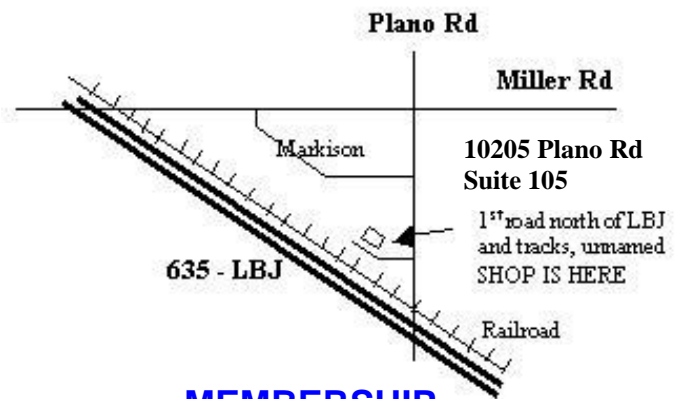
TAKE A SHOW FLYER TO WORK, CHURCH, ETC.

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 Build
 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)

Member of

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

Affiliated with

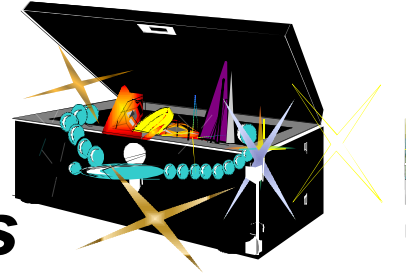
American Federation of Mineral Societies

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW !

The Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Clubs'
39th Annual



2006 Fall Festival of Gems & Minerals



Ellison Miles Geotechnology Institute at Brookhaven College
3939 Valley View Lane, Farmers Branch, TX



Saturday ♦ September 30th ♦ 10 am to 6 pm

Sunday ♦ October 1st ♦ 10 am to 5 pm

- ♦ Jewelry ♦ Custom Artist Designs ♦ Gemstones
 - ♦ Geodes ♦ Lapidary Supplies ♦ Cabbing Rough
 - ♦ Diamonds ♦ Crystals ♦ Spheres
 - ♦ Fossils ♦ Wide Selection Beads & Findings
- ♦ Specimens ♦ Minerals ♦ Children's Mine
 - ♦ Silent Auction ♦ Wheel of Fortune
- ♦ And Much, Much More!!!

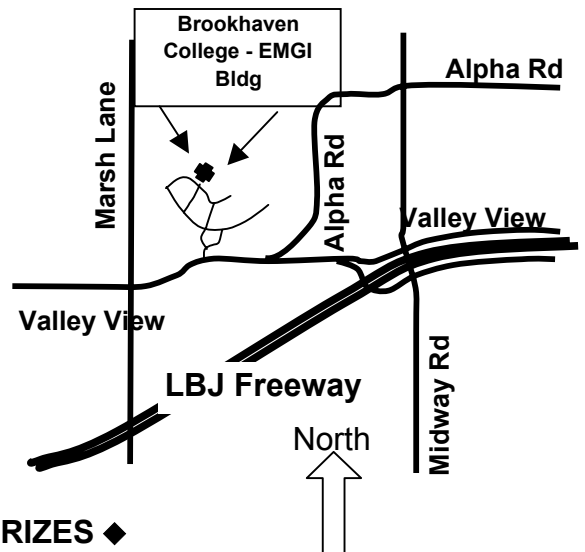
Suggested Donation
Adults . . \$5
Children 7-14 \$1
Age 6 & Under FREE!

Boy or Girl
Scouts & Leaders in Uniform -
Free!

Website:
www.pogmc.org

For Show Information Call
972-509-2821 or email
don_shurtz@hotmail.com

- ♦ HOURLY DOOR PRIZES ♦
- ♦ GRAND PRIZE DRAWING SUNDAY ♦



- ♦ Rolling Rock Club meeting Sunday October 1st 9:00 am ♦
- ♦ Coffee & Donuts ♦ Open Invitation to Local Rock Club Members