



August 2018

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1st Place, 2018 SCFMS Mini-Bulletin

1st Place, 2017 AFMS Mini-Bulletin

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Blue Quartz

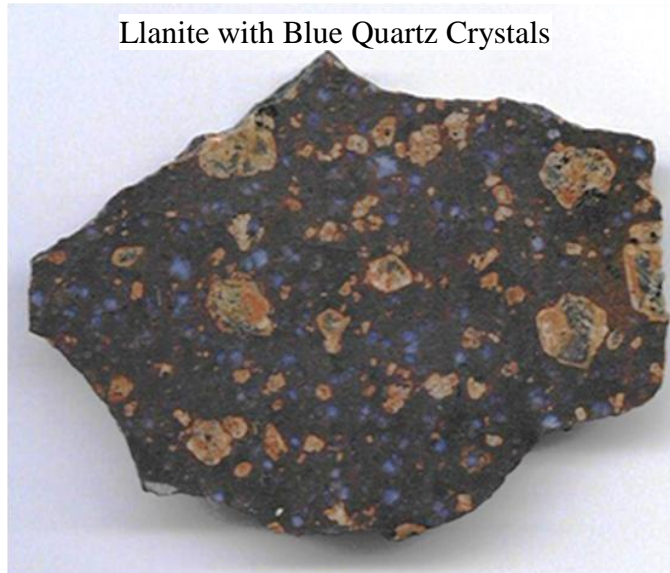
Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

Continuing the topic of quartz that has been addressed over the last several months, this article is about blue colored quartz. Purple quartz is called Amethyst, yellow quartz is called Citrine, pink quartz is Rose Quartz, and blue quartz is called, well, Blue Quartz. Unlike some colored quartz, it does not have a special name – it is simply called blue quartz. Blue quartz, as a member of the quartz family, will have a Moh's hardness of 6.5 to 7.0. It exhibits a conchoidal fracture. The Moh's hardness may be less than 7.0 due to inclusions.

Amethyst and citrine have chromophores; trace elements that replace some of the Silicon atoms in the crystal matrix. These trace elements have the ability to absorb some wavelengths of light and to reflect other wavelengths, thus forming the color that we perceive. Blue quartz can gain its color from one of two methods. The first way is called Tyndall scattering. Tyndall scattering is caused by particles that are approximately the size of the wavelength of the light being scattered. In the case of blue quartz, much like our sky, the blue light is scattered while the remaining frequencies of light pass through relatively unaffected. The second way blue quartz acquires its color is through inclusions caught up in the quartz. The minerals that cause the blue color are magnesloriebeckite, crocidolite, tourmaline or

ilmenite. The Rayleigh scattering (scattering by particles much smaller than the wavelength of the light being scattered) takes over and scatters the blue light from the included minerals throughout the quartz.

One place to find blue quartz is right here in Texas in a very popular stone for cabbing, Llanite. It is the blue quartz crystals in the pink rhyolite that makes Llanite unique to Texas. The blue color in the quartz crystals is caused by Rayleigh scattering, and the scattering source is ilmenite inclusions and ilmenite growing on the faces of the quartz crystal. Ilmenite is Iron Titanium Oxide.



Llanite with Blue Quartz Crystals

Ref:

- Blue quartz, mindat.org, <https://www.mindat.org/>
- Blue quartz, The Quartz page, <http://www.quartzpage.de/blue.html>
- Blue quartz, Tyndall Scattering, and Rayleigh scattering, Wikipedia, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>
- Zolensky, Michael E., Sylvester, Paul J., and Paces, James B., Origin and significance of blue coloration in quartz from Llano rhyolite (llanite), north-central Llano County, Texas, American Mineralogist, Vol. 73, http://ruff.info/doclib/am/vol73/AM73_313.pdf

Picture:

- Blue quartz in Llanite found by Jerry Cooper. Picture released to Public Domain, from Wikipedia, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

Editor's Corner, Soapbox (again)

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club



In last month's Editor's Corner, Soapbox I asked for HELP with articles for the Chips and Chatter. So far, response from club members has been absolute silence. However, I do send copies of the Chips and Chatter to the SCFMS Officers and Committee Chairs and Members, and I send copies to all the SCFMS editors that have an email address. The Executive Vice President of the SCFMS, Mr. Jerrold Simpson, did take the time to respond to the article. I would like to share his response. Jerrold wrote as follows:

Don,

As you know, I am not a member of your gem & mineral club. I am, however Executive Vice-President of the SCFMS. I also receive the Chips & Chatter from you and look forward to reading it every month.

In the club I belong to, we used to have a monthly newsletter. I contributed to it while I was president of the Society and contributed safety articles, poetry and other articles before and after being president. I noticed the same thing about contributors as you pointed out in your July issue of the Chips & Chatter. One of my articles, while president of that society, covered this subject. Members want the newsletter but do not want to contribute. Many times members would relate stories, during the meeting, that would make good articles but they were afraid they would look foolish because of their writing styles and word usages.

As you indicated, an editor's job is to correct misspellings, correct some grammar, and punctuation as needed. Several times I noted our editor would make those corrections to my articles.

Sadly, we no longer have a regular newsletter. No one contributes because we never know if there will be a newsletter or not.

If you want to publish this, as written or changed as needed, in the Chips & Chatter you have my permission to do so. This is a direct response to your readers for articles for a quality newsletter. I receive other club newsletters and yours is among the best.

Members of the Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, you have a great newsletter. Take it from an old newspaperman; editing is not an easy job. Writing is not always an easy job. Being your editor is not the only job Don has. He is also active in several areas of the SCFMS. It takes a while to edit articles when received. It takes a lot of extra time if the editor also has to find articles to put in the newsletter. After all, the newsletter should be about your club and you as members of the club. Please make Don's job easier by supplying him with more articles than can be put in one newsletter in one issue.

Don, keep up the good work your doing in your club and for the SCFMS.

So there you have it. The failure to contribute to the club newsletter can lead to fewer issues being published or outright stopping the newsletter.

Now let us go one-step further. Think about what can happen if you don't contribute to the club (i.e., take an active role in the club, help out with committees, run for office, etc.). What are the consequences? We lose members to clubs that are more active, potential new members opt for clubs that are more dynamic, interest diminishes, the club grows smaller and ultimately the club fails. Is that what you really want? Perhaps it is time to take a more active role in the club, participate in club activities, and share your knowledge.

OK – Enough Doom and Gloom. Don

Shows and Activities – Upcoming Show and Activity Dates

- Jul 14 – 15, Tulsa, OK, Tulsa R&MS, Tulsa County Fairgrounds, www.tulsarockandmineralsociety.org
- Aug 11 - 12, Gonzales, LA, Baton Rouge G&MC, Lamar Dixon Expo Center, www.brgemandmineral.org
- Aug 17 – 18, Tahlequah, OK, Tahlequah R&MS, Cherokee County Community Bldg, crescentmooncrafts.elaine@gmail.com
- Aug 18 - 19, Bossier City, LA, ARK-LA-TEX G&MS, Bossier City Civic Center, www.larockclub.com
- Aug 25 – 26, Mountain Home, AR, Ozark Earth Science Club, Baxter County Fairgrounds
- Sep 1 - 3, Silver City, NM, Grant Count Rolling Stones G&MS, Grant County Veterans Memorial Conf. Center, www.rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com
- Sep 8- 9, Siloam Springs, AR, Northwest AR G&MS, Hwy. 14029 White Oak Ln, nwarockhounds.org
- Oct 5 - 7, Albuquerque, NM, Jay Penn, NM State Fairgrounds, www.albfallshow.wix.com/abq-fall-show
- Oct 12 – 14, Dallas, TX, International Gem and Jewelry Show, Market Hall, <https://www.intergem.com/>
- Oct 12 - 13, Mount Ida, AR, Mount Ida Chamber of Commerce, Montgomery County Fairgrounds, 31st Annual Amateur World Championship Quartz Digging Contest, www.mountidachamber.com
- Oct 13 - 14, Amarillo, TX, Golden Spread GM&TS, Amarillo Civic Center, amarillotreasure.com
- Oct 13 - 14, Temple, TX, Tri-City G&MS, Mayborn Civic Center, Iroiston@ht.rr.com
- Oct 19 - 21, Austin, TX, Austin G&MS, Palmer Events Center, www.agms-tx.org
- Oct 19 – 21, Houston, TX, International Gem and Jewelry Show, NRG Center, <https://www.intergem.com/>
- Oct 27 – 28, Oklahoma City, OK, Oklahoma City M&GS, Oklahoma State Fair Park, www.OMGS-minerals.org
- Nov 9 - 11, Houston, TX, Houston G&MS, Humble Civic Center, www.hgms.org
- **Nov 17-18, Mesquite, TX, Dallas G&MS, Mesquite Rodeo Center Exhibit Hall, www.dallasegemandmineral.org**
- **Jan 20 - 21, 2019, Fredericksburg, TX, Fredericksburg Rockhounds and SCFMS Convention, Lady Bird Johnson Park**

Ref:

- March - April 2018 SCFMS Newsletter
- Rock & Gem Show Calendar, <http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?ShowState=ALL>

You’rx Nxxdxd

From the “The Jaspilite,” Fall 2016, newsletter of the Ishpeming R&MC, Ishpeming, MI via the Backbender’s Gazette, July 2018

Xvxn though my kxyboard is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll – xxxcpt for onx kxy. I havx many timxs wishxd it workxd pxrxfctly. It’s trux that thx othrx kxys work grxat, but just onx kxy not working makxs a hugx diffxrxncx

Somxtimxs our club sxxms a lot likx my kxyboard. You may say to yoursxlf, “Wxll, I’m just onx pxrson. I don’t makx or brxad thx club.” But is doxs makx a big diffxrxncx bxcausx a club, to bx xffxctivx, nxxds thx activx participation of vxvry pxrson.

So thx nxxt timx you think your xfforts arxn’t nxxcssary, rxmxmbxr my kxyboard, and say to yoursxlf, “I’m nxxdxd vxry much.

Visit an Area Club

- [Arlington Gem & Mineral Club](#), 1408 Gibbins, Arlington, TX, 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm
- [Cowtown Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club](#), meets the 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm, CERA 3300 Bryant Irvin Rd. Fort Worth
- [Dallas Bead Society](#), meets 1st 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 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,

A NOTE FROM ROGER

By Roger Burford, SCFMS President



By the time this newsletter is published, we will find ourselves about a month out from this year's SCFMS meetings. I enjoyed getting the opportunity to meet with all of you who attended the meetings and the great show put on by the Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society. This is twice in three years that they have hosted the federation meetings and the experience shows they know what they are doing.

Attendance at the meetings this year was way down and I am having a hard time understanding why. All clubs in the federation are required to send their President to the annual meetings or they may send an alternate to represent their clubs. This year, if I remember the numbers correctly, we had 15 of the 35 clubs in the Federation represented which was very disappointing for a Federation which donates the most to the American Federations Scholarship Fund. We normally have very good attendance to our meetings so I would like to know why this year as different. Was it due to the economy, the timing of the show or miscommunications? I would like to hear from all of our clubs as to why they were unable to attend this year and even from those who did attend as to what we can do better to improve our attendance.

Communication is the bread and butter of what we do. We teach our members and others interested in our hobby and we have all probably learned something from other members of your club or other clubs in our federation as well as the American Federation. Within the South Central Federation our newsletter editors are sharing their newsletters with each other and I also receive newsletters from other federations. If you have some information which could help someone else, a skill you can teach, please share this with other club members both in your club and with other clubs, this sharing is what makes being a member of clubs like ours interesting and fun. Share what you know and teach skills you have learned, communications among our clubs is key to having fun and our clubs growth.

LAPIDARY SOCIETIES ATTACKED BY INTERNET THIEVES

by Mark Nelson, AFMS BEAC Chair

from T-Town Rockhound, 3/17; via The Tumbler 05/2018; via Backbender's Gazette 06/2018



In the past two months, it has been reported to me that lapidary societies across the country are being targeted by thieves. The thieves study the society's website to identify the society president and treasurer and their email accounts.

Then they craft an email which masks the sender's email, but lists the Sender (the society president) by name. The email is directed to the society treasurer, mentions the treasurer by name, and directs the treasurer to send money to an individual or business in a hurry. Mark

relates two examples of such scams, and then lists these financial safeguards: Be sure that a treasurer knows who is making the request for payment. In most email providers such as AOL, if you click on the name of the person sending the email, an email address will appear. Immediately question any payment to a person or business who is unfamiliar to the treasurer. Make sure that all requests for payments are accompanied by an invoice that can be verified. Verify that the expense requested by the email is covered by the budget and is from a known vendor (expected) or has previous specific Board approval. Have all checks signed by two of the top elected executives who should also ask these questions. When in doubt, pick up the phone and talk to the person requesting the check.

Editor's Note: Although Mark is primarily addressing Club/Federation Treasurers, if you have an Internet presence, **you will be a target**. Fantastic inheritances are a prime scam, as are government grants. Just keep a couple of things in mind: (1) nothing is free, and (2) if it seems too good to be true, it isn't true. I don't know how we can get rid of these Internet predators, but **if you just use common sense, you can spot them**. Send suspicious emails to your SPAM folder. If you get an email saying you must update your bank account or similar password, **beware!** They are trying to do is steal your identity or gain access to your bank account to drain it. Banks will not send you an email requesting updated profile information – it will come by U.S. Mail. If possible, don't open these emails, and **never click on any links** in the email. Clicking on the link can load malware, viruses, ransomware or worse.

President's Message

Ling Shurtz, POGMC President

I hope everyone is staying cool during our heat wave. Our next big activity will be the International Gem and Jewelry Show (IGEM) on 12 – 14 October at Market Hall. Our contract has been submitted. Set up will likely be Wednesday, 10 October in the early afternoon. As we get closer to the date, we will update the set up day and time if necessary.

Club Officers for 2018

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

Meeting Minutes

The July 5, 2018 club meeting was called to order at 7:15pm by Ling Shurtz.

The Pledge to the flag was led by Ling.

We have a quorum. The Club's Constitution and By-Laws defines a quorum at a regularly scheduled meeting to be those in attendance at the meeting.

We didn't have a Sunshine report and there weren't any visitors.

Minutes: The minutes of the June meeting as printed in the July Chips and Chatter were discussed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Carolyn and seconded by Ling. The motion passed.

Treasurer's report: Del Grady gave the Treasurer's report. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Carolyn. The motion was seconded by Don. The motion passed.

There wasn't any old business.

New Business:

Shows

- Jul 14-15, Tulsa, Ok, Tulsa R&MS, Tulsa County Fairgrounds, www.tulsarockandmineralsociety.org.
- Aug 11-12, Gonzales, LA, Baton Rouge G&MC, Lamar Dixon Expo Center, www.brgemandmineral.org
- Aug 17-18, Tahlequah, OK, Tahlequah R&MS, Cherokee County Community Building. crescentmooncrafts.elaine@gmail.com

- Aug.18-19, Bossier City, LA, ARK-LA-TEX G&MS, Bossier City Civic Center, www.larockclub.com
- Aug 25-26, Mountain Home, AR, Ozark Earth Science Club, Baxter County Fairgrounds
- Nov 17-18 Mesquite, TX, Dallas G&MS, Mesquite Rodeo Center Exhibit Hall, www.dallasgemandmineral.org.

There was no new business from the floor.

For our break, we had a 4th of July cookout dinner with Bar-b-q brisket, two types of wonderful coleslaw, beans and weenies, bread and cookies and brownies, and plenty of iced tea and water to wash it all down.

After our meal, we had our members show and tell, each person was to bring a favorite rock or mineral to show off.

- Ling brought a pretty cube of fluorite.
- Cheryl brought a large rock of pyrite, calcite and limestone, and a pyrite nodule.
- Don brought a box full of petrified wood from Utah.
- Hat brought a piece of serpentine.
- Lee brought a large chunk of orbicular rhyolite.
- Del brought Andamouka opal.
- Warner brought a piece of lapis.
- Carolyn brought her pendant made of synthetic peach colored opal.

We had a raffle for a pair of tickets to the Perot Museum of Nature and Science; Warner was the lucky winner.

MEETING

Our next meeting will August 2, 2018 starting at 7:30 PM. We will have a DVD from the Great Course series about Earthquakes. Our September 6, 2018 meeting will have a speaker – topic still being worked.

Show and Tell

Bring your August birthstones, Peridot and/or Spinel. If you have some blue quartz or Llanite, bring them too!

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

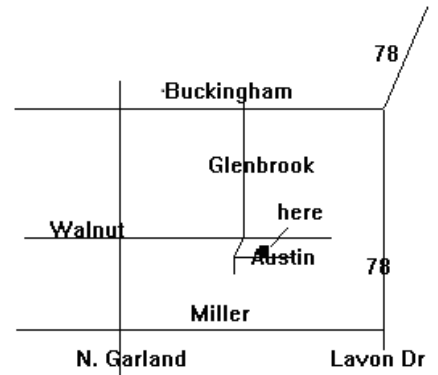
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PLEASANT OAKS GEM and MINERAL CLUB of Dallas



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. 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
 PO Box 831934
 Richardson, TX 75083-1934

To:

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Next Meeting: August 2, 2018, 7:30 PM at the Garland Activities Building

Features

Blue Quartz..... 1
 Editor’s Corner, Soapbox (Again).....2
 You’rx Nxxdxd.....3

Notices

Club/Meeting Info 1, 5, 6
 Shows and Activities3
 Visit an Area Club3

Monthly Columns

Club Information 1, 5, 6
 President’s Message5
 Minutes5

Federation Information

A Note from Roger.....4
 Lapidary Societies Attacked by Internet Thieves.4