

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter



July 2012
Vol. 46, Issue 7

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Notice

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Check our website 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

OUR JULY MEETING WILL BE AT SPRING CREEK BBQ IN RICHARDSON STARTING AT 7:00 PM. NO BUSINESS – JUST FOOD AND FRIENDS

Club Officers for 2012

President: Del Grady
1st VP: Mark Carter, (972) 680-9223
Secretary: Lee Elms
Treasurer: Don Shurtz, (972) 509-2821
Editor: Anita Dresner & Don Shurtz
E-mail: anitadresner@rocketmail.com
don.shurtz@gmail.com

Chips and Chatter Deadline:
The 3rd Thursday of each month

From the Secretary: May 2012 Minutes

Lee Elms: POGM Secretary

President: The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm by Del Grady. The Pledge to the flag was led by Greg Gosnell ("Hat").

Sunshine Report: Anita is going to have cataract surgery this month, and then the other eye will be operated on next month.

1st VP:

1. Warner Regan will be giving a demonstration on cleaning minerals this evening.
2. The July meeting will be our annual Spring Creek Barbeque 'indoor picnic'.

Secretary's Report: Del Grady asked if there were any questions or corrections to the minutes of the May meeting as printed in the Chips and Chatter. The minutes for last months' meeting were approved to be accepted as written in the Chips and Chatter.

Treasurer's Report: Don Shurtz presented the treasure's report. We voted unanimously to accept the treasurer's report.

Old Business There wasn't any old business to discuss.

New Business:

1. Don and Ling Shurtz will represent our club at the South Central Federation show, August 25 & 26 at Jasper, Texas. We voted on travel expenses for the show
2. We made a motion to have our July club meeting at the Spring Creek Barbeque on Central Expressway in Richardson at 7:00 pm on July 5th

Field Trips:

1. Field Trips: American Federation Show July 26th-29th at Minnetonka, Minnesota
2. Estate sale in Weatherford this weekend – Don will forward email information later this evening

Refreshment Break

Program: After we had our refreshment break, we stepped outside to observe Warner's presentation. Warner has a new tool and wanted to show us how it worked to clean up rock specimens we have collected, and the specimens are still covered with the dirt and clay that we collected them from. The device is a small hand- held high pressure water sprayer called a Splenti. It works really great on removing the dirt and rust off of crystals. You just have to be real careful to not hit your fingers with the water spray as it is so powerful it will cut you. Warner had brought some beautiful crystal formations he bought from Mexico and power washed several of them to show us how in a short amount of time you can have a clean and brilliant specimen

Adjourn: We went back inside after the presentation for the raffle. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm

Respectfully submitted, Leanda Elms, Secretary

Possible Field Trip?

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

About 260 miles north-east of Dallas is the small community of Turkey, TX. On the road from Turkey to Clarendon and along the road from Turkey to Childress one can find Alabaster (Gem Trails of Texas by James Mitchell copyright 1987. The book does not specify if the Alabaster is derived from Gypsum or Calcite, the Gypsum variety being much softer Mohs 1.5 – 2) than the Calcite variety (Mohs 3). A fingernail should scratch the Gypsum variety but not the Calcite variety Calcite (Wikipedia, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alabaster>). Either form of Alabaster can be carved with carving tools designed for wood or with a chisel and hammer.

Area Clubs

Arlington G&M Club, 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, 1408 Gibbins, Arlington, TX
Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club, Garland Women's Bldg., 713 Austin, Garland, meets the 1st Thur. of each month at 7:30 pm
Lockheed-Martin Stone Steppers, 3400 Bryant-Irving Road, Fort Worth, meets the 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 pm
Dallas Gem & Mineral Society, 10205 Plano Rd, off of Plano Rd, Dallas, TX, meets the 3rd Tue. of each month at 7 pm
Oak Cliff Gem & Min Soc., South Hampton Community Hospital, 2929 S. Hampton Rd, Dls, TX, 4th Tue. of each month at 7 pm
Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club, 3545 Bryan Avenue, Ft Worth, TX, meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm
Dallas Paleontological Society, EMGI (Bldg. H, Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane, 75244), 2nd Wed. of each month at 7:30 pm

California State Gem: Benitoite

Anita Dresner; Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Benitoite

The only place you will find Benitoite is in San Benito County. It is mined from the New Idria mining district of central California. First discovered in 1907 it was not until much later it was named the state gemstone of California. This is a quiet rare ring silicate and is barium titanium silicate (BaTiSi₃O₉)

From a mine discovered in 1906 and began operation in 1907 to this date, there is a good tale, information and history to glean from the following site. Take time to read it and travel the timeline to this date as the latest mine owner had a vision of making the mine open to individuals. You may want to plan a vacation to the most famous gem site in the world. Story site at: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benitoite>.



Ref: <http://calstategemmine.com/History.htm>

Ref: http://geology.about.com/od/regional_geology/ig/stategems/statebenitoite.htm

Picture Ref: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Benitoite_HD.jpg#filelinks Picture from attributed to [Didier Descouens](#)

July Birthstone of the Month: Ruby

Anita Dresner, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club



Historically rubies have been mined in Thailand and Samlout District of Cambodia, with a few found in the U. S. in North and South Carolina, and Montana. Rubies have always been held in high esteem in Asian countries. They were used as decor on armor and harnesses of noblemen, and laid under foundations of buildings to assure good fortune to the structure. Rubies have a hardness of 9.0 on the Mohs scale of mineral hardness. Among the natural gems, the diamond with a hardness of 10.0 on the Mohs scale the ruby is known for its hardness. All rubies, naturally formed by nature, have imperfections. If you are lucky you will see some rubies reveal an asterism, sometimes referred to as a star, with six points or even a three-sided point.

The Smithsonian's [National Museum of Natural History](#) in Washington, D.C. houses one of the world's largest (23.1 carats (4.6 g) finest ruby gemstones. It is set in platinum and with diamonds. It is the Carmen Lúcia Ruby, a Burmese ruby donated by Peter Buck in memory of his late wife Carmen Lúcia.

This is an amazing Please take a moment to review the picture of ruby crystals together with blue kyanite crystals at:

Ref: pic at right; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Ruby_-_Winza,_Tanzania.jpg Thank you to [StrangerThanKindness](#), the author for allowing me the use of this picture.

Ref: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruby>

<http://www.mnh.si.edu/exhibits/ruby/index.htm>

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/0d/Ruby_cristal.jpg released into the [public domain](#)

by its author, [Arpingstone](#) in May 2003.



The Tasty Corner

Anita Dresner, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Watermelon Cooler

Serves 2

Ingredients:

- 1 ½ lbs (4 cups) sliced seedless watermelon, rind removed
- 1 cup lemon sorbet
- 1 zest of lemon
- 1 ½ cups cold water
- Watermelon wedges and mint, for garnish

Instructions:

- In a food processor, blend all ingredients except water, until very smooth.
- Pour in 1 ½ cups cold water and stir briskly; cover and refrigerate for several hours. Serve over ice and garnish with mint if desired.



Anita's Deviled Eggs

Ingredients:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 12 hard-cooked eggs | 1 8oz blk Cream Cheese, (@ room temp). |
| Tat of mayonnaise | 2 heaping Tbsp Dill Pickle Relish |
| ¼ C Green Onion finely chopped | ¼ Cup Celery finely chopped |
| Mustard to Taste | 4 strips Bacon fried crisply & crumbled |
| ½ teaspoon pepper | ¼ teaspoon salt |
| 1 Tsp Fresh Dill, minced (optional) | |

Directions:

Slice eggs in half lengthwise; remove yolks and set whites aside. In a bowl, mash yolks with a fork. Add softened Cream Cheese. Work the cheese, yolks, and just enough mayonnaise to moisten to hold together.

Add relish, onions, celery and crushed bacon (bacon optional) and mustard to yolk mixture. Add mustard a tablespoon at a time until desired taste/consistency is reached. Add pepper and salt to taste preference. Spoon into piping bag then fill the 24 egg white halves.



What's Going On With This Dual Editor Thing

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

If you were observant, you may have noticed that on page 1 there are two editors listed. Due to health reasons, Anita is stepping down, but is helping with this July Issue and possibly the August Issue. So for the time being there are two editors. Even if Anita is not able to continue as editor, I hope we can persuade her to continue to contribute to the Chips and Chatter. We wish Anita well with here cataract surgery (both eyes) and arthritis issues and hope she has a speedy recovery.

2012 Show Dates

July 2012: 14-15—TULSA, OKLAHOMA: Annual show; Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society; Central Park Hall Bldg.; Tulsa State Fairgrounds; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; crystals, minerals, jewelry, displays, exhibits, silent auction, raffles; contact Leon Reeder, PO Box 2292, Tulsa, OK 74101, (918) 346-7299; e-mail: okyrocks@peoplepc.com; Web site: www.townrockhound.org
21-22—FORT WORTH, TEXAS: Retail show; The Bead Market; Amon Carter Exh Hall; Will Rogers Cntr, 3400 Burnett Tandy Dr; Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4; free admit; gemstones, glass, all kinds of beads & supplies, pearls, findings, lampwork, tools, books; Rebekah Wills, PO Box 494, Gilmer, UT 75644, (903) 734-3335; Web: www.thebeadmarket.net e-mail: rebekah@thebeadmarket.net;

August 2012: 10-12—PASS CHRISTIAN, MISSISSIPPI: Annual show; Harrison Co Gem & Min. Soc.; W Harrison Co. Civic Cntr; 4470 Espy Ave.; Fri 12-6, Sat 9-6, Sun 10-4; adults \$3, under 10 free; rock ID, grand prize raffle; contact Tomsey Westermeyer, 9270 Serenity Dr., Pass Christian, MS 39571, (228) 586-5279; e-mail: tomsey@cableone.net; Web site: www.gulfportgems.org
11-12—BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA: Annual show; Baton Rouge Gem & Mineral Society; Marriott Hotel; 5500 Hilton Ave., off I-10; Sat. & Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, children \$3; contact Diana Martin, (225) 931-7543; e-mail: cajunladi@cox.net
17-18—TAHLEQUAH, OKLAHOMA: Annual show; Tahlequah Rock & Mineral Society; Tahlequah Community Bldg.; 300 W. First St.; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-5; adults \$3, under 18 free; rocks, minerals, fossils, gemstones, jewelry, auctions, educ. exhibits, demos; Sara Brasel, 14236 Cross Timbers Rd., Tahlequah, OK 74464, (918) 458-0801; e-mail: rockhoundsally@aol.com
18-19—BOSSIER CITY, LOUISIANA: Annual show; Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Soc.; Bossier Civic Center; 620 Benton Rd.; Sat. 10-6; adults \$4, students \$1, under 6 free; demos, youth activities, exhibits, classes, door prizes, dealers; contact Charlie Johns, 9314 Overlook Dr., Shreveport, LA 71118, (318) 687-4929; e-mail: cwsejohns@bellsouth.net; Web: www.larockclub.com
25-26—JASPER, TEXAS: 18th annual show; Pine Country Gem & Mineral Soc.; The Event Center; 6258 Hwy. 190 W, 5 miles west of Jasper; Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5; adults \$2, students & children free; South Central Federation of Mineral Societies annual mtg., Spinning Wheel, silent auction, lapidary demos, hourly door prizes, grand prize raffle, student prize; contact Lonnie Stalsby, (409) 382-5314
25-26—MOUNTAIN HOME, ARKANSAS: Annual show; Ozark Earth Science Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club; Van Matre Senior Center (Cooper Park); 1101 Spring St.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$1, children (12 and under) free; minerals, fossils, beads, jewelry, games; contact Ed Hakesley, 821-1 Alexis Circle, Mountain Home, AR 72653, (870) 424-0956; e-mail: edscamp3@yahoo.com

September 2012: 8-9—SILOAM SPRINGS, ARKANSAS: Show & sale; Northwest AGMS; NWAGMS Clubhouse; Hwy. 43 North; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; tailgate swap, auction, grab bags, assorted activities; contact Dave Leininger, 14029 White Oak Ln., Bentonville, AR 72712, (479) 263-1424; e-mail: hulagrub@aol.com; Web site: www.nwarockhounds.org
29-30—MESQUITE, TEXAS: Annual show; Dallas Gem & Mineral Society; Mesquite Exhibition Hall; 1818 Rodeo Dr.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$8; dealers, gems, minerals, fossils, demonstrations, kids' mine, fluorescent display, geode cracking, gold panning; contact Darrell Harrison, 1808 Tisinger, Dallas, TX 75228; e-mail: bravo1bravo@sbcglobal.net; Web site: dallasgemandmineral.org
29-30—MURFREESBORO, ARKANSAS: Annual show; Crater of Diamonds State Park; Diamond Discovery Center; 209 State Park Rd.; Sat. & Sun. 9-4; 13 and up \$7, children (6-11) \$3, under 6 free; jewelry, rocks, fossils, minerals, gems, demos, free rock, mineral & gem ID, search for diamonds; contact Margi Jenks, Crater of Diamonds State Park, 209 State Park Rd., Murfreesboro, AR 71958, (870) 285-3113; e-mail: margaret.jenks@arkansas.gov; Web site: www.craterofdiamondstatepark.com

October 2012: 6-7—ARLINGTON, TEXAS: 55th annual show; AGMClub; shopping cntr behind Walgreens; 1010 N. Collins; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adult \$6, students w/ID, kids 6-12, Srs \$3, Scouts n uniform, active military \$0.; Kids' Korner; rocks, slabs, gems, gem ID, jewelry, fossils, demos, cabbing, faceting, silversmith, knapping, displays, minerals, silent auctions, Gr prize drawing, raffle, RockFood Table, Jack Spinks, 209 Overlook Dr, Midlothian, TX 76065, (214) 335-9452; e-mail: jlspinks@sbcglobal.net, Web site: www.agemclub.com
11-13—MOUNT IDA, ARKANSAS: 26th Annual World Championship Quartz Crystal Digging Contest; Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce; Montgomery County Fairgrounds; Fairgrounds Rd.; Thu. -, Sat. 9-3; adults \$75 (late fees apply); dig quartz crystals, keep all you find, meet other miners, maybe win a prize; contact Maureen Walther, Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce, Mount Ida, AR 71957, (870) 867-2723; e-mail: director@mtidachamber.com; Web site: www.mtidachamber.com
12-14—MOUNT IDA, ARKANSAS: Annual show; Mount Ida Area C of C; Montgomery County Fairgrounds; Fairgrounds Rd.; Fri - Sat 9-5, Sun. 9-4; free admission; dealers, minerals, jewelry, quartz crystals, quilts, crafts, Treasure Hunt; contact Maureen Walther, Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce, Mount Ida, AR 71957, (870) 867-2723; e-mail: director@mtidachamber.com; Web site: www.mtidachamber.com
19-21—AUSTIN, TEXAS: Annual show; AGMS; Palmer Events Center; 900 Barton Spr Rd.; Fri 9-5, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$5, Srs \$4, Youth 13-18 \$1, under 12 50 cents; 30 + vendors, jewelry, beads, gemstones, mineral specimens, crystal, fossils, spheres, lapidary equip., Kids' games, Illumination Station (glowing rocks), displays, RockFood & Touch Table, member collect.; demos faceting, cabbing, polymer clay, Youth Edu Day Fri., silent auctions, hrly door prizes, grand prize; contact Susan Postlethwait, 6719 Burnet Ln., Austin, TX 78757, (512) 458-9546; e-mail: showchariman@austingemandmineral.org; Web site: www.gemcapers.com
20-21—DENISON, TEXAS: Annual show; Texoma Rockhounds; Senior Center; 531 W. Chestnut; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; dealers, jewelry, rough rock, jewelry making supplies; contact Rosemary Siems, 91 Country Hill Circle, Sherman, TX 75090, (903) 891-9702; e-mail: ramblingrosetoo@yahoo.com

CHIPS AND CHATTER

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

PO Box 831934

Richardson, TX 75083-1934

FIRST CLASS MAIL



To:

July 5th, 2012 Meeting Notice

Our July Meeting will be our annual “Indoor” Picnic at the Spring Creek Barbecue in Richardson. We will start things up at 7:00 PM, a half-hour earlier than normal. To get to Spring Creek Barbecue, take the Belt Line exit from US-75. From the south go through the Belt Line intersection, look to the right for the big flag pole. From the north follow the U-Turn lane to head north, look to the right – same flag pole! See you there at 7:00 PM.

PLEASANT OAKS GEM and MINERAL CLUB

July only, 7:00 PM

Spring Creek Barbeque

270 N. Central Expressway, Richardson

(North of Belt Line Road on the east side of US75)

MEMBERSHIP

Single Adult: \$16.50,

Junior: \$5.00; Family: \$27.50

(Plus badge fee for new members)

Program Presentation

July will be our annual “indoor” picnic at Spring Creek Barbecue in Richardson. We start promptly at **7:00 PM**. No business, just food and fun. Be There!

Member of

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

Affiliated with

American Federation of Mineral Societies