

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter



June 2007
Vol. 41 Issue 6

Features

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Workshop, Meeting, etc.

- Check out our website for a color version of the *Chips and Chatter*
- Open Shop: Each Monday - 4:30 pm – 9:00 pm, and each Saturday - 9:00 am – Noon
- Ladies & Gents night at the shop on 2nd, 3rd & 4th Thursday, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

June issue 2007 by Anita Dresner. Unless otherwise noted, permission granted for non-commercial reproduction of articles provided they remain essentially intact and credit is given to the author and original source. Where noted, the author retains the copyright and must be contacted for permission to reproduce the article. All articles may also be used as reference provided citation is given.

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: June 7th at 7:30 PM
Garland Women's Activities Building
713 Austin, Garland, TX

Presentation

I believe we are having Charles show us the wire wrap bracelet.

Show & Tell

Also a showing of marble collections from anyone willing to share with us for Show and Tell.

Club Officers for 2007

President: Don Shurtz, (972) 509-2821
1st VP: Mark Carter, (972) 680-9223
2nd VP: Brenda Dowell, (972) 771-9502
Treasurers: Delbert Grady, (972) 235-6575
Secretary: Nell Black
Editor: Anita Dresner (972) 475-5828
E-mail: andresner@verizon.net

Minutes – April, 2007 General Meeting

Minutes as compiled by Secretary, Nell Black, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

Meeting called to order by President, Don Shurtz. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Robert Fitzgerald.

Sunshine report:

Warner reported that his wife Cindy was doing well after her bout with pneumonia.

April 2007 Minutes:

Minutes of April meeting were printed in the Chips and Chatter. Motion made by Mark to accept the minutes as printed in the Chips and Chatter. Beth made a second to the motion. All others present accepted the minutes as printed.

Treasure Report: Delbert Grady

Treasure report given and motion to accept report as read made by Wanda Fitzgerald and Beth Hollingsworth made a second to the motion. Motion passed.

President=s Report: Highlights of Executive Board meeting:

Two committees were established. Show Advertising Committee and a Chair Person committee.

1. The Show Advertising Committee will be headed up by Anita Dresner and Ling Shurtz. A budget of \$1,500.00 was established for advertising.
2. Chair Person, Mark Carter will head up a committee to review the By-Laws of the club.

1stVP report: (Mark Carter)

Semi-seminars are on the agenda for our June meeting. Perhaps David will do Apaint on shine@ or show how to make a sphere. Check in the Chips and Chatter to find out what is decided for the June meeting.

2nd VP report: (Brenda Dowell)

Gave update on shop activities. The shop will be closed on meeting nights. It was noted that the shop being closed on meeting nights would make it so there would be no conflict with our club meeting Donnette Wagner made motion to leave the statement Ashop closed on meeting nights@ in the club By-laws. Second made by Beth Hollingsworth.

Editor: (Anita Dresner)

Communication is the key to the success of our club. She emphasized the importance of all club officers giving some input each week into the Chips and Chatter.

New Business

None reported

Field Trips

On last field trip a small problem occurred. Donnette made a suggestion that someone should write up Field Trip Rules. Mark Carter volunteered for this job.

July Meeting

We will discuss our July BBQ next meeting.

Old Business

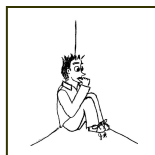
Secretary Status

Nell Black volunteered to hold the office of club secretary. She was voted in by the members present at the meeting.

BREAK

After the break, Mark Carter did a presentation film from 1998 Federation Presentation on Agates.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 p.m.



Editor's Corner

Anita Dresner, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

I do not know how many of you at the May meeting really enjoyed the film that Mark presented. I surely did! Here is a big thank you Mark! It was quite informative and I learned a lot. Coming from a seasoned member that does not sound quite sincere, does it? But let me tell you, I have ask and ask for information on how to and where to go to learn about rocks, gems and minerals since I joined the club near 2 years ago. This is one of the first times that I felt my needs were addressed. Now that is not to say there have not been good programs in the past, quite contraire. I just was not wise enough to appreciate them at the time. Oh, I had been told to go to the library, or on the internet, or builder suppliers of rocks and ask questions. When you have a new or novice member joining your club and wanting to learn, these suggestions are fine as far as they go. Someone needs to take these people (like me) under their wing and guide them, step by step to learning this information. This is one way to keep and grow members for your club/s. We all need or want new members to grow our clubs and to all that will listen, to teach them of the earth's treasures, how to protect them and the value of it.

Keep spreading that magical rock dust and do some kind of rock hounding this month.

President's Message

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

This month, I received a letter from Dr. Simon Dalley of Southern Methodist University (SMU) and president of the Beal Bank Dallas Regional Science Fair thanking us for our participation in judging and in sponsoring a Special Award. He reports that the Awards Banquet has been held at Southern Methodist University and that the students now have their prize and certificates in hand. Our Special Award Winner of the rock tumbler kit and certificate went to Illya Zavizion. Honorable mentions went to Lately Douglas, Nabeel Lookmanjee, and Nathan Rodriguez. We also received the mailing address for these students; so, they will receive this copy of the *Chips and Chatter*.

I would also like to extend two invitations to each student. First, we would like to extend a 1 year complimentary club membership for them and their immediate family, and second, we would like to invite them to bring their science fair project to one of our meetings so that all the club members can see them. All they need to do is contact one of the club show representative's on their certificate or any of the club officers as shown in the Chips and Chatter or our website, www.pogmc.org.

I hope all our club members had a safe Memorial Day holiday. See you at the June meeting.

Refreshment Duties

Anita Dresner, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

<u>Month</u>	<u>Ice & Drinks</u>	<u>Snacks</u>
June	Donnette	Don & Ling
July	Picnic	See July C&C

Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Show Report

Ling Schurtz, Show Chairwoman

So far, 75% of the dealers that are wanting space at the show have put money down to reserve their space.

1st Vice President Message

Mark Carter, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

Field Trip Etiquette

For collectors who love the thoughts of field trips I take this opportunity to outline some absolute essentials of being a good Collector, club member, citizen and yes, even a human being. The lack of common sense threatens our hobby and along with increased legal exposure for hosts, may essentially put an end to field collecting in our generation.

1. Be invited. (Sign up and attend. Obtain property owners permission. Respect claims.)
2. Be prompt and punctual. (Don't show too early or heaven forbid one minute late.)
3. Be polite to all members, hosts and property owners.
4. Collect only what you need within reason.
5. Take care of fences, gates, trees, plants, livestock and everything.
6. Respect Holy Grails of forbidden collecting. (Parks and Historic sites)
7. Always collect in such a way as not to pose a threat to yourself or any other collectors.
8. If you've collected an area before make sure novices understand what and how to collect an area.
9. If you re working a good area give the less knowledgeable collector a chance to collect when you re tired. (Who knows, you may be old one day and one of these young collectors now will help you out with physical strength you no longer have?)
10. Take care of what you collect.(Identify and store appropriately)
11. Be a good guest. (If you've brought goodies for you bring some to offer your host.
12. Take care of yourself; watch your hydration, sun and weather exposure.
13. Unless special circumstances have been arranged DO NOT HAVE A FIRE!!
14. Pick up more trash than you brought.
15. Monitor other collectors to keep them safe
16. Never undercut a bank.
17. Never allow your tailings to fall down on another collector.
18. Always work carefully overhead.
19. Know what you re looking for and do your homework.
20. Treat everyone the way you would like to be treated!
21. Know and bring equipment you need.
22. Have appropriate transportation.
23. Be able to be flexible if plans change.
24. Don't complain about the field trip unless you re willing to plan the next one and settle for the same PAY as the field trip leader.
25. Enjoy the outing even if NOTHING is found.
26. Share excesses with youth or those unable to attend,
27. Let others know where you have gone so someone knows where you are and when you will return.
28. Watch out for inherent risks.(Snakes, Cactus, Poison Ivy, etc.)
29. Park cars legally and sensibly.
30. Watch children and consider carefully taking your pets.
31. If you do take pets; clean up after them.
32. Use common sense!!
33. Don't let after collecting revelry become disturbing to those around you.

This is a rather lengthy list, I know. But in my many years of collecting, I've seen each one of these ignored and this lack of respect is slowly diminishing our areas available to enjoy our hobby. The conventional wisdom held by many of our law making bodies is that there is no place for collecting. Let's not be responsible for strengthening that argument.

Shop Report

Brenda Dowell, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

The shop will have new qualifying classes beginning the first Tuesday in June. John Woodard is in charge of the scheduling and will be setting the exact time for these classes. Anyone interested in these classes please contact John at; johnandlaura@mymailstation.com.

The addition of Gents to the Thursday night Ladies Night is going great. There is a good response from the men and with Howard as the new supervisor along side me, we are getting some extra maintenance and cleaning underway.

As a reminder to the club, I will be in Colorado starting the week of June 17th and will be returning home during the week of August 16th or the following week. I can be reached at:SmileyJeep@aol.com.

Field Trips

Update by Brenda Dowell, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

Primary contact information for the Colorado Field Trip, August 3rd – 12th is Brenda Dowell @ 469/964-7271 (CELL) The trip takes in the Creede G&M Show the 1st weekend and the Buena Vista Rock Show the 2nd weekend. Brenda Dowell, Jim Senseman and Dave Greenburg will guide you to the digging sites around the area for this field trip. If you are interested, please contact Brenda at: SMILEYJEEP@AOL.COM.

The contact area is the town of Southfork. If you need you may get Jim Senseman's number listed in the town of Southfork and call him. Some of the rockhounds will be staying at the "Goodnight's Lonesome Dove Campground", 6 miles west of Southfork.

Jim is working on an agenda for the trip. If you expect to join them on this field trip, it is important that you let Brenda or Jim know what time and date you will be arriving as well as leaving; so, they will be aware you are in the area and keep you informed of the agenda plans.

From your editor;

(Refer to and remember The [Field Trip Etiquette](#) our 1st VP contributed to this news letter items: 2, 21, 22, 23 & 24). Now go and have a fabulous hunting and digging summer field trip.

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 a 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. Ctr., NW corner Walnut Hill & Midway, Dallas
Oak Cliff G&MS meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM, Renaissance Hospital, 2929 S. Hampton Rd., Dallas, TX., 75224
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- Fortification Agate

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks G&MC

First, let's break this question into two parts. I think we all know what an agate is – microcrystalline silicon dioxide, generally translucent. A fortification is something built to strengthen the inner portion or position. Two common fortifications are walls and moats built around a military or city center. Applying this to a stone, we can get a stone with rings around the center portion, or a fortification agate. Now wasn't that easy? Oh, by the way – fortification agates are also called banded agates.

Knowing what a fortification agate is may be easy, but how did it form? Now that is where the fun begins! One theory is that the fortification agates form in empty cavities layer by layer. Typically the empty cavities, also called vesicles, were originally formed by gas pockets trapped in cooling lava. Stresses formed micro-cracks later allowed the gas to escape and water with dissolved silicon dioxide to enter. Eventually the silicon dioxide became saturated and started depositing on the outer wall of the “bubble” building the agate from the outside in. Different concentrations of other minerals in the silicon dioxide solution added color, and as their concentration changed, different colors were deposited. Thus, the fortification agate took an enormous amount of time (read millions of years) to form. If something happened to stop the formation, sometimes a void was left in the middle where crystals of quartz could form.

However, more recent theories do not agree that the fortification agates took millions of years to form. This theory also starts with gas bubbles leaving voids in lava flows. They also agree that the voids, but rather than by water with silicon dioxide dissolved in it, they were filled by gelatinous solutions. Then the solutions start to cool. As long as the environment is relatively stable, the materials stay in solution becoming super-saturate.



Fortification agate
Picture from Encyclopedia
Britannica online

Then something happens in the environment which triggered a rapid transition from gelatinous to solid phase. This “something” could have been an earthquake, or a sudden drop in temperature, or ... This phase transition did not happen instantaneously, but over a short period of time. But in that short period of time (seconds to minutes), the solution can form regions, akin to Liesegang rings, forming the fortifications. This behavior can be demonstrated with other chemical “gels” in a laboratory environment. This behavior was also described in a book I read several years ago on Chaos Theory (sorry, I can not find the book for reference).

Which theory most accurately describes the formation of fortification agates? If one of them were proved, then it would no longer be a theory, but both remain unproven. But the bottom line, regardless of theory, is that fortification agates did form, and may be some of the most beautiful stones we encounter.

References:

Agate Basics, <http://www.agatelady.com/agate-basics.html>

Dictionary.com, <http://dictionary.reference.com/>

Encyclopedia Britannica Online, <http://www.britannica.com/eb/art-41116?articleTypeId=1>

Geochemical Self-Organization in Agates and Zebra Dolomites: Observations, Modeling, Testing,
<http://www.cosis.net/abstracts/EGU04/07048/EGU04-A-07048.pdf>

GeoScience World, <http://geology.geoscienceworld.org/cgi/content/abstract/26/4/347>

Ostwald, Carl Wilhelm Wolfgang, *An Introduction to Theoretical and Applied Colloid Chemistry, "the World of Neglected Dimensions,*

<http://books.google.com/books?id=rpFLE07ZaWoC&pg=PA149&lpg=PA149&dq=agate+formation&source=web&ots=pEQV-Yh4BD&sig=4csFBhMcX7nC6BSoSyi-rZ8drjQ#PPR2.M1>

Springerlink, <http://www.springerlink.com/content/q3h3423835482360/>

Question of the Month for July:

What Elements in the Periodic Table Do Not Form Minerals?

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4 4:30-9:30 pm Open Shop	5	6	7 7:30 pm Pleasant Oaks Club Mtg	8	9	10
11 4:30-9:30 pm Open Shop	12	13	14 6:00 - 9:00 pm Ladies Night @ the Shop	15	16	17 Father's Day 
18 4:30-9:30 pm Open Shop	19 7:00 pm Dallas Gem Club Mtg	20	21	22	23	24
25 4:30-9:30 pm Open Shop	26	27	28 6:00 - 9:00 pm Ladies Night @ the Shop	29	30	

Show Dates

June 22-24, Santa Fe, NM - Museum of New Mexico. 2nd Annual Palace of the Governors Gem and Mineral Show. Palace & Lincoln Aves. 9 a.m.-5 a.m. daily. 505-476-5512, carlotta.boettcher@state.nm.us, www.palaceofthegovernors.org

July 6-8, Durango, CO - Four Corners Gem & Mineral Club. Gem & Mineral Show. La Plata County Fairgrounds, 2500 Main Ave. 6th, 11-6; 7th, 10-6; 8th, 10-5. Joanna Baker, 970-884-7949 :info@durangorocks.org

July 7-8, Lake Ozark, MO - Osage Rock & Mineral Club. 6th Annual Gem, Jewelry, Rock, Mineral, and Fossil Show. The Resort at Port Arrowhead, 3080 Bagnell Dam Blvd. (Business Hwy. 54). Roger Varvel, 417-532-4367, rvarvel@fidnet.com

July 13-15, Houston, TX - International Gem & Jewelry Show. Reliant Park. 301-294-1640, fax 301-294-0034, www.intergem.com or: info@intergem.com

July 20-22, Kenner, LA - AKS Gem Shows. New Orleans Summer Bead, Gem, & Jewelry Fest. Pontchartrain Center, 4545 Williams Blvd. 20th-21st, 10-6; 22nd, 10-4. Kay Schabillion, 504-455-6101, info@aksshow.com, www.askshow.com

Aug. 18-19, Bossier City, LA - Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society. Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show. Bossier Civic Center, 620 Benton Rd. 18th, 10-6; 19th, 10-5. Charlie Johns, 318-687-4929, cwsejohns@bellsouth.net or at: larockclub.com

Aug. 18-19, Live Oak, TX - San Antonio Bead Market. Live Oak Civic Center, 8101 Pat Booker Rd. 18th, 10-5; 19th, 10-4. Rebekah Wills, 903-734-3335, www.thebeadmarket.net

Aug. 25-26, Jasper, TX - Pine Country Gem & Mineral Society. Annual Gem and Mineral Show. VFW Bldg., FM 2799 & FM 1747. 25th, 9-5; 26th, 10-5. John Nash, 409-384-3974, nash@jas.net

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



FIRST CLASS MAIL

To:

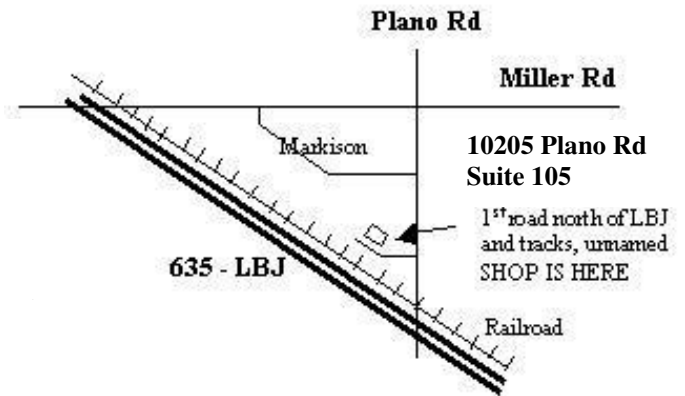
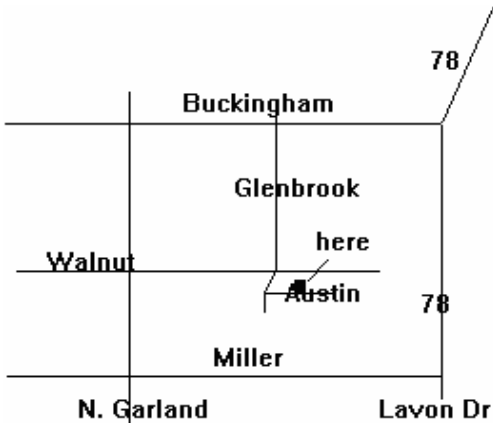
- 1st place SCFMS 2006 small bulletins
- 9th place AFMS 2006 small bulletins
- 3rd place SCMS 2005 small bulletins
- 3rd place, AFMS 2005 small bulletins
- 1st place SCFMS 2004 small bulletins
- HM AFMS 2004 small bulletins
- 2nd place SCFMS 2003 small bulletins

Next Meeting: June 7, 2007 at Garland Women's Activity Building, 7:30 PM

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)

Member of

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

MEMBERSHIP

Single Adult: \$16.50, Junior: \$5.00
 Family: \$27.50
 (plus badge fee for new members)

Affiliated with

American Federation of Mineral Societies