

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter



October 2007
Vol. 41 Issue 11

Features

Special Committee Report	3
Feature Article	4

Monthly Columns

Minutes	2
Refreshments.....	2
Editor's Corner.....	3
President's Message.....	3
1 st VP Report.....	3
Shop Report	5
Greater Area Field Trip.....	5
Rock Swap	5
Club Member Ads.....	5
Question of the Month	6
Metroplex Clubs.....	7
Shop Calendar	7
Show Dates	7

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

October 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: Thursday, October 4th at 7:30 pm
Garland Women's Activities Building
713 Austin, Garland, TX

Presentation

Our guest speaker for October will be Randy Smith. He will be speaking on Brazil, especially amethyst mining.

Show & Tell

Gather up your finds from the summer and bring them in for show and tell. Especially, those of you that were in Colorado, bring some of those beauties in for us to whet our appetite for the digs of Colorado.

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 – September, 2007 General Meeting

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

September 6, 2007

Meeting called to order by President, Don Shurtz followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sunshine Report:

April Dobson is in the hospital. We need to remember April and David in our prayers.

Treasurer Report:

Treasure report given by Delbert Grady and motion to accept as read made by Wanda. Mark made a second to the motion.

President's Report: Highlights of Executive Board Mtg.:

A Nominee Committee assigned to select new officers for the New Year is headed by Anita Dresner, Mark Carter, Ling Shurtz and Nell Black.

The President welcomed our visitor and we voted for and accepted a new member to our club.

2nd VP – Brenda Dowell:

Shop is doing O K at the present. Need to attend qualifying classes in order to use shop.

Editor: The South Central Federation of Minerals Societies Bulletin Editor's Contest Awards were presented for articles submitted to the Chips and Chatter during 2006. They were as follows: Wanda Fitzgerald, Honorable Mention for "Wanda's Wandering – Color Pearl" written in June of 2006; David Dobson took Ninth Place for "TXI in June of 2006", appeared in the September 2006, Brad Tanus article on "Rockhounding in Alpine Texas", took third place and received a trophy, was in the January 2006 issue of C&C.

No New Business:

Old Business:

Members present discussed our upcoming Club show which will be held on 9-29-07 thru 9-30-07. We need people to help with the show, selling tickets, running the silent auction, helping with the kid's activities, etc. Also need help in setting up for the show. Contact Ling Shurtz (972-509-2821) if you can help.

Refreshment Duties

Anita Dresner, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

<u>Month</u>	<u>Ice & Drinks</u>	<u>Snacks</u>
<u>October</u>	<u>Need Volunteer</u>	<u>Need Volunteer</u>
<u>November</u>	<u>Need Volunteer</u>	<u>Need Volunteer</u>

Special Committee Report

Mark Carter and Brenda Dowell

I'm reporting back on the beginning talks between Dallas Gem & Mineral Society and Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club, over the dissolution of the joint workshop. We have begun the talks and they are going well. At the October meeting, myself and Mark Carter will be presenting ideas we have come up with for discussion so this may take place. At our November meeting, this will be on the agenda for voting upon.

So please, if you want your voice heard, come to both meetings.

Brenda Dowell
2nd VP



Editor's Corner

Anita Dresner, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

I want to take a moment here and tell each and every one of you how much I appreciate your warm, kind words and prayers for my family. They were not solicited but are deeply appreciated more than you know.

As your Editor, I have failed to find time to address you in this issue of the *Chips and Chatter* but want you to know that I have been thinking about each of you as I have been committed to family.

Again, I say thank you, each and every one of you.

Anita Dresner

President's Message

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Greetings to all, by the time this gets to you the show will be history. It will either have been a success or a bust. I am hoping it was a success. We are going into the show with fewer dealers than last year and the fixed expenses (security, tables, etc) have not gone down. However, I think we will be (or will have been) successful in that aspect. As to help at the show, that remains a question for now, but will have been answered. I guess we will just have to see how it goes (or how it went). If you want to know how the show went; hopefully, you were at the show and have your own opinion. If not, you'll just have to come to the club meeting.

Our next meeting, we will get a report from the nominating committee on officers for 2008. We will vote on the officers at the meeting. The new officers will take over at the November meeting. If you are willing to serve as an officer, please contact one of the nominating committee members (Anita, Mark, Nell, or Ling). If you would like to know more about the responsibilities of the officers, you can look in the club by-laws which are available from a link on our website, www.pogmc.org.

Hope I saw you at the show, see you at the meeting.

Don

1st Vice President Message

Mark Carter, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

No report this month

Feature Article of the Month

Coco Johnson and Anita Dresner

This is an article that came up at another club I attend. I thought it appropriate and fitting here or in any publication where there are volunteer officers and or editors. It is a good read and very worthy of taking to heart. Permission for publication granted to me per authors attributed above. Anita Dresner

“Coco Johnston:

The whole reason clubs like this are formed is so that information can be pooled and shared. I know some things; you know other things. If we share with each other what we know, we will each increase our knowledge. We all benefit by sharing the information we have.

The primary tools for spreading information in any club are the discussions/presentations at the meetings, the newsletter and the Web page. If one person hears that an event is coming up in a few months, and he shares that information with his fellow club members, then they will all benefit by knowing about it. If that information appears in the newsletter, and that newsletter goes to other club editors, who put it in their newsletters, then hundreds will find out about the event. If the information is given to the Web editor, and it goes on the Web page, then even more people will learn about it. By sharing the information you know with the newsletter editor, you are giving that information to a wide audience who will appreciate it.

By the same token, if you say, "Rock Swap, April 15," that might get a few people there. But if you say, "Rock Swap, April 15, tons of petrified wood and agate, 18" saw, sphere machine, lots of tools. 50 Cent Hot Dogs!" you'll get even more people there. The more information you can give, the more apt you are to attract people looking for the very thing you're mentioning. "Meeting Tuesday" won't attract as big a crowd as, "Topic: How many varieties of turquoise are there?" or "How to find red plume agate."

EVERYONE in the club should think about letting the editor know when they hear that some rock shop is having their big spring sale, or Joe Gotrocks is selling his vast collection of 60 years worth of rock collecting and tools, or that that a group from the Paleo club is going to Jasper in two months to look for pet wood. These things are going on all the time, but rarely does anyone who hears about them or plans them THINK to tell the people who can get the word out about it -- THE EDITOR or THE WEB PAGE ADMINISTRATOR.

Information is only as valuable as the number of people who know about it and the amount of time they have to act on it.

Anita Dresner:

"Being an editor I totally agree with Coco about getting information for the newsletter or website either. Most especially getting it in a timely manner so you are not up burning the midnight oil the night it is to "hit the press"/web. Every officer should mark their calendar in bold red that they have to submit their information promptly in order to get the message out to the members they serve. Editors/webmasters do not attend all the meetings that are going on and are not mind readers; although, we sometimes like to make you think we are. Officers and committees should just keep in mind, without members there are no officers needed, no fun to be had, therefore no news to report/post....."

Shop Report

Brenda Dowell, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

The saws at the shop are up and running thanks to the purchase of all the parts that we were in need of this last month. There are two new saws and new blades on the old saws. These new blades are of better quality and should hold up much longer than the old brand we were using.

The Teachers Event went very well with some names to add to our prospect list. Also, with the efforts that were put into that event hopefully many more people were aware of our show at Brookhaven and attended.

Take care and bless you all,
Brenda

Greater Area Field Trips

Trip Coordinator David Dobson, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

TXI Field Trip, November 10th, 8am

If you are interested in attending this trip, please email me at rocktrading@aol.com. We may only have 25 people in our party. This is their rule not mine. My list will be on a first come, first serve basis, sorry. Directions to meeting location in Midlothian, TX: Go South on 35E to Highway 67. Go South toward Midlothian, TX. Exit Ward road. Go east under the overpass and we will be parked on the right across the street from TXI.

Hope to see you there. Have a great day

ROCK SWAP

Dallas GM Society & POGM Club

Please mark your calendars now so you won't miss this exciting and fun day
What? The joint fall Rock Swap. When? October 20, 2007, 8:00 AM until?????

Many dealers including, but not limited to: rocks, fossils, slabs, minerals and gem stones, etc.

For a donation there is scrumptious food, hey guys, Tex-Mex food!

The menu will be Fajatas, Tortilla Soup, and assorted drinks.

To set-up at the swap contact John Woodward – 2nd VP of DGMS at jwoodd@sbcglobal.net or Mike Russell –
President – DGMS at twinman72@yahoo.com.

Come and swap, sell, trade rocks, gems and eat heartily and share tall tales of your finds.

Club Member Ads

Petrified wood for sale \$0.50/lbs - Pieces up to 200 lbs. Drill press with core cutting drill bits.
Diamond core bits ½" to 4" in diameter \$500, 12" vibrating flat lap brand new \$2500. Now \$700.00
\$1.50 to 2.50/lb obsidian rainbow, pink lady, and double flow mahogany.

Will trade for other rocks, or equipment - Ask for David, (214) 731-1288
David has other items that I did not get to list for this issue. If there is anything you are interested in locating, call David first as he just may have what you are looking for. David Dobson

Question of the Month What is Corundum???

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks G&MC



Sapphires (Corundum) taken by Azuncha Picture from Wikimedia Commons which grants permission

It's confusing. It's a riddle. It's a mystery. Now if this were a rock, then it may be a conundrum. But "conundrum" has an extra "n" and a shuffled spelling from "corundum", so let's press on with the correct spelling and intent.

Corundum is Aluminum Oxide (Al_2O_3). It is generally clear and is very hard (Moh's hardness of 9.0, second only in hardness of natural materials to diamond). Impurities in the crystalline structure often color the corundum. If it is a deep red, it is more commonly known as Ruby. If it is yellow, purple, pink, blue, orange, green, or almost any other color than red then it is more commonly known as Sapphire.

Rubies are found in Africa (Tanzania, Kenya, and Madagascar), Asia (Cambodia, Sri Lanka, and Myanmar (Burma), Greenland, Australia, and in North Carolina in the United States. Sapphires can be found in more locations throughout the world. In the US, they can be found in Colorado, Montana, and North Carolina. If you want to go

looking for corundum (either ruby or sapphire) I would suggest the Houston Museum of Natural History or the University of Texas. Of course, all those samples would be imported. However, corundum is found in pegmatite and schist which are common in the Llano Uplift area of Texas. In fact, corundum is one of the minerals found in the Sandy Mountain Pegmatite, Llano County, TX but obviously not in any significant quantities or we would be on a field trip there right now!

Corundum was one of the first gem minerals to be produced synthetically. The first synthetic ruby was produced in 1837. Commercial production of synthetic ruby started in 1903. Today, synthetic corundum is widely available for faceters. It is also used in the electronics industry and as lenses for infrared equipment.

Reference:

Minedat.org, Corundum, <http://www.mindat.org/show.php?id=1136&ld=1>

Minedat.org, Llano Co., Texas, <http://www.mindat.org/loc-9986.html>

Wikimedia, <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Image:Sapphire01.jpg>

Wikipedia, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corundum>

Question of the Month for September: What is AURUM?

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. 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

October 2007

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4 7:30 pm Pleasant Oaks Club Mtg	5	6 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	7
8 4:30–9:30 pm Open Shop	9	10	11 6:00 – 9:00 pm Ladies & Gents Night @ the Shop	12	13 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	14
15 4:30–9:30 pm Open Shop	16	17	18 6:00 – 9:00 pm Ladies & Gents Night @ the Shop	19	20 8:00am - until Rock Swap 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	21
22 4:30–9:30 pm Open Shop	23 7:00 pm Dallas Gem Club Mtg	24	25 6:00 – 9:00 pm Ladies & Gents Night @ the Shop	26	27 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	28
29 4:30–9:30 pm Open Shop	30	31				

Show Dates

October 5,6,7 Dallas, TX InterGem Show: Dallas Market Hall The "Original" Classic International Gem & Jewelry Show inc. The worlds largest jewelry bazaar: jewels, beads, necklaces, earrings, gold, silver, opals, diamonds, settings and much, much more.

October 13 & 14 North Texas Earth Science Fair. EMGI Center at Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane, Dallas, TX 75244. 10 - 5:00 both days, free admission, quality mineral, fossil and gem dealers,exhibits, free arrowhead for scouts, Teacher Outreach, Raffle, Geocash, Mineral and Fossil ID. Nick Theis 972-242-2634 or n2theis@gmail.com

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



FIRST CLASS MAIL

To:

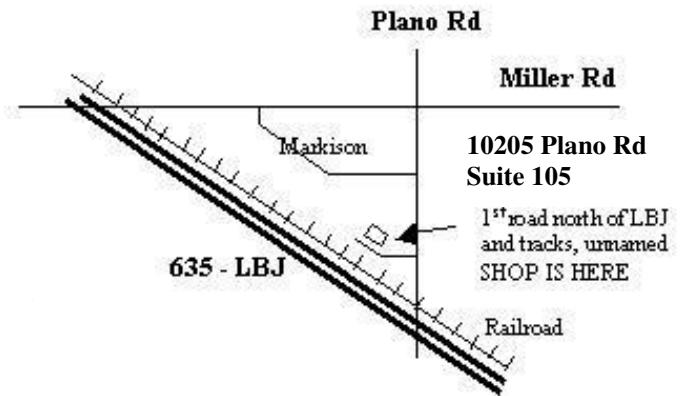
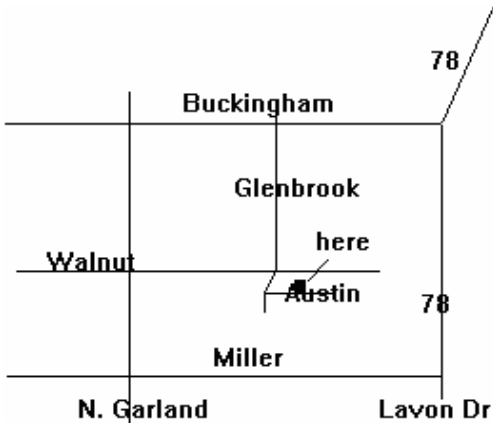
- 1st place SCFMS 2006 small bulletins
- 9th place AFMS 2006 small bulletins
- 3rd place SCMS 2005 small bulletins
- 3rd place, AFMS 2005 small bulletins
- 1st place SCFMS 2004 small bulletins
- HM AFMS 2004 small bulletins
- 2nd place SCFMS 2003 small bulletins

Next Meeting: October 4, 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 Building
 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