

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter

September 3, 2009
Vol. 43 Issue 9

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September issue 2009 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.

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

POGM meet the First Thursday each month. 7:30 pm at the Garland Women's Activities Building, 713 Austin, Garland, TX, (Northeast corner of Austin & Glenbrook).

Presentation

September meeting's speaker will be Dianne Brownlee. You will not want to miss hearing Diane and getting to know her.

Club Officers for 2009

President: Donnette Wagner
 1st VP: Mark Carter, (972) 680-9223
 Secretary: Donna Mallory
 Treasurer: Don Shurtz, (972) 509-2821
 Editor: Anita Dresner (972) 475-5828
 E-mail: andresner@verizon.net

President's Message

Donnette Wagner, President, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Where does the time go? Seems I am always saying that. It is hard to believe September is here already, most vacations are over, school has started, and it is time for everyone to get back into their regular routine.

For many clubs, including ours, it is time to get back to business too. Fall shows are popping up on the calendar. The Arlington Club being the first weekend in September and the South Central Federation Show in Temple on October 10-11, just to name a couple. Cooler weather will get field trip coordinators all excited. Program chairpersons will be scrambling to find programs of interest for all of us to enjoy.

Most importantly, we will be selecting a nominating committee to prepare a slate of officers for the 2010-2011 club year. I have made this plea many times and so here it is again. The strength of any club is related directly to the level of participation of its members. The more people who step up and get involved the better the health of the club. I do not know how to say it any plainer. The current officers have, for the most part, been officers many times and for many years. It is time for others, and I mean YOU, to join in the fun; take a turn in a leadership position. Think about what position you might like to have. If you are not sure what is required of that position, ask one of the current board members.

Please volunteer to be on the nominating committee and or talk to the nominating committee when they contact you and let them know what office you would be willing to accept if offered. Please become part of the future of the Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club. This is a wonderful club and we need you to help us make sure that it has a great future.

Secretary, August Minutes

As reported by Mark Carter, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Due to lack of the key for the Garland Women Building, the meeting was called to order on the Garland Women's Building lawn.

Since, we did not have a flag, the pledge was dispensed with.

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the June meeting by Mark Carter and was second by Wanda Ftizgerald. Motion passed.

The June and July treasurer's reports was read, Del Grady moved to have them accepted and the motion was seconded. Motion passed.

The Sunshine report, we were lucky to have Jessie, Wanda, Butch and Patty all with us, whom we had not seen in a while.

There was no old business to discuss.

New business was September meeting's speaker, which will be Dianne Brownlee. Also, outreach to youth and school groups was discussed.

The Program/Challenge for next month's contest is a short story contest to provide material for Anita and the *Chips and Chatter*. Also short paragraphs about yourself makes great entries for the *Chips and Chatter*.

After a large number of raffle winnings, the meeting was adjourned.

Editor's Corner

Anita Dresner, Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

I have been keeping you readers updated on the progress of what it has taken to keep a flexible timetable, a sense of organization, and through all this activity, the family is living amidst the going on. I spoke most of all about what it means working together, helping one another, and learning how to compromise. While I am speaking from a family viewpoint, this also is much like the family of Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club.



Here in the family of Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral, we work on the same basic premises. As our president has stated in her message this month, it will not be long until it is time to elect new officers. We would like to have a choice of members from which to select officers. There are several members with that glint in their eyes. It speaks of sharing their talents and YOU too, need to volunteer; you know you do! The positions come with great pay and incentives! The incentives are the opportunities to get to know others in your club, other clubs and attend events and outings in the name of the club. The pay is even greater; the reward of having led the club yet another year, plus meeting people you never thought you would meet! You would be helping to keep the hobby of rock, gem, mineral and fossils in front of our youth and adults. Your club needs you! See you Thursday at the meeting. Have a great and blessed week!

I would like to give you the address for you to mail your article/s to me for the *Chips and Chatter*: 3809 Skyline Drive, Rowlett, TX 75088. The contest mentioned in the August minutes sounds exciting; 'The Program/Challenge for next month's contest is a short story....., also short paragraphs about yourself....'.

The Tasty Corner

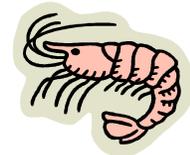
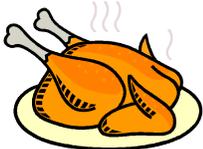
Ling Shurtz, Member, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Spicy Chicken with Broccoli

Ingredients:

Broccoli (clean and cut to small pieces)
2 Tsp Kikkoman Soy Sauce
Hot pepper (crush chili pepper, or pepper powder)

1 lb Chicken Tenders (dice and discard fat)
2 Tsp Cornstarch (to coat the diced chicken)
Some Chop Garlic



Procedure:

1. Combine dice chicken and cornstarch.
2. Broil broccoli in hot water (2 minutes, do not overcook)
3. Use non-stick pan, put 2 Tsp of oil, prepared chicken, crushed garlic, chili spice, soy sauce, and 2 Tsp water, to give saucy taste.
4. When chicken is cooked, place it over bed of broccoli.

Note: For Spicy Shrimp over Broccoli, substitute shrimp for the chicken following the same directions above.

A Tale to Share

Submitted by Mark Carter, POGM Member

Way back in 1969, my family's summer vacation was a trip to the Pacific Northwest. On the trip, we stopped by Friday agate ranch where we dug "thunder eggs" for several hours; coming away with a nice assortment of "eggs". This past summer, I returned with my son to revisit the site. We were staying in Bend, Oregon during a hot summer, we timed our departure to arrive at the ranch, which is now Richardson's Rock Ranch which has the old Friday agate beds, at opening time to avoid the mid day heat. The current owners have had the property about 35 years and were very cordial. Andrew and I went out with borrowed tools and we collected 42 pounds of nice thunder eggs in a couple of hours. We were still digging the volcanic eggs out of the mud layer after caterpillars (vehicles) had cut down the overburden. In our travel to the site, it and the trip were vaguely familiar, as I reminisced back to a time when life was much simpler and collecting sites were plentiful. I hope that this site will be available 40 years from now for the collectors of tomorrow.



September Birthstone: Sapphire

Chips and Chatter Editor

Sapphire: Regal and Quiet

by Margaret Burgon Klemp



Margaret Burgon Klemp states; "there is more than one way to become a legend". History is full of legends, some less bombastic than some others. This is true of gemstones. The sapphire is quiet and calm. Its' effect long lasting. Perhaps that is one reason it is described in the Bible, in Exodus this way: "And they saw the God of Israel; and there was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness." (Exodus 24: 9-10) Marbode of Rennes (1035-1123) said in his writings: Sapphire has an appearance - Similar to the heavenly throne; - It depicts the heart of simple men - Waiting with sure hope, - In whose life and ways - The highest is pleased. Marbode was Bishop of Rennes in France, an avid researcher.

The sapphire traditionally has been involved in religion and belief of the stones owner could harness psychic powers. Several language origins for the word "sapphire"; Sanskrit "sauriratna" in honor of the planet Saturn; Ancient Chaldean "sampir", the Greeks modern translation "sappheiros", denoting the color blue, Arabic translation was "safir" and in Latin it's "saphirus".

The sapphire is widespread and accessible because they originate in the earth's upper crust. It is of the corundum family and with attributes of light refraction, density, and hardness and derives from the chemical crystallization of alumina. It comes in all shades of blue, Most sought after is Cornflower Blue Sapphire, finest of all sapphires.

They are found in Kashmir, Australia, Cambodia and Thailand, sapphires have developed over millions of years from rich deposits of molten carbonatite with a lot of aluminum mixed in it. In other parts of the world sapphires may have come from ancient formations, once impure marble, developing over time through metamorphic conditions into crystalline silicates known as skarns. Skarns in the igneous environment are associated with marble and wider zones of silicate rocks. Mixtures of corundum, titanium, and iron, are a part of the crystallization process. Because of the process, there are numerous inclusions in a sapphire, useful in verification techniques when authenticating the stone. Sapphires do twinkle. The smaller microscopic stones inside the primary gem, created at the same time, caused the twinkle. The Sapphire: legendary, quiet and regal.

References:

<http://www.geminfo.com/sapphire.html> Sapphire: Regal and Quiet *by Margaret Burgon Klemp*

[Gems: A Lively Guide for the Casual Collector](#), by Daniel J. Dennis Jr., Henry N. Abrams, Incorporated, New York, New York

[Gemstones: Symbols of Beauty and Power](#), by Eduard Gubelin and Franz-Xaver Erni, Geoscience Press, Tucson, Arizona

[Gems in Myth, Legend and Lore](#), by Bruce G. Knuth, Jewelers Press, Thornton, Colorado

[Gemstone Information](#)

Show Dates

September 2009

5-6 ARLINGTON, TX: Arlington G&M Club 51st Annual Show: "Nature's Kaleidoscope"; Arlington Convention Center, 1100 Ballpark Way; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; Adults \$6, Seniors & Children \$3; dealers, jewelry, beads, gems, minerals, fossils, Kids' Korner, Rock Food Table, professional gem identification, silent auctions, hourly door prizes; contact Karen Cessna, 1408 Gibbins Rd, Arlington, TX 76011, (817) 277-2286; e-mail: cessnak@ont.com; Website: www.agemclub.org

5-7 - SILVER CITY, NM: Grant County Rolling Stones G&M Society 26th Annual Show; Silver City Recreation Center, 11th St and Gold St; Sat & Sun 10-5, Mon 10-4; Free Admission; 60+ dealers from US, Mexico and Asia, free daily field trips, silent auction, Wheel of Fortune, raffles; contact L. Lett, (575) 538-3216; e-mail: show09@stockmanfamily.net; Website: <http://rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com/>

12-13 - SILOAM SPRINGS, AR: Annual Fall Swap; Northwest Arkansas Gem & Mineral Society; Clubhouse, Hwy 43, just north of Siloam Springs; Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5; Free Admission; Kids gem wash auction; contact Dave Leininger, (479) 263-1324; e-mail: Hulagrub@aol.com; Website: www.nwarockhounds.org

18-20 - ENID, OK: Enid G&M Society; 4125 W Owen K Garriot Rd, 1705 S Johnson St; Fri 9-6, Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; contact Billy Wood, 1705 S Johnson St, Enid, OK 73703, (580) 234-5344; e-mail: baronladislaus@att.net

30-4 - IDABEL, OK: McCurtain Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show & Sale; Museum of the Red River, 812 SE Lincoln Rd; Free Admission; Wed 9-5, Thu 9-5, Fri 9-5, Sat 9-5, Sun 9-5; contact Cephis Hall, (580) 494-6612

October 2009

8-10 - MOUNT IDA, AR: Annual World Championship Quartz Crystals Digging Contest; Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce; Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Fairgrounds Rd; Thu 8-3, Fri 9-3, Sat 9-3; Adults \$75/\$90; keep all you find, meet other miners, maybe even win a prize, an international event; contact Maureen Walther, Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce, Mount Ida, AR 71957 (870) 867-2723; e-mail: director@mountidachamber.com; Website: www.mountidachamber.com

9-11 - MOUNT IDA, AR: Quartz, Quiltz and Craftz Festival; Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce; Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Fairgrounds Rd; Fri 8-6, Sat 9-6, Sun 10-4; Free Admission; Children's dig Sat, fun for all, crystals, mountains and more crystals; contact Maureen Walther, Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce, Mount Ida, AR 71957 (870) 867-2723; e-mail: director@mountidachamber.com, Website: www.mountidachamber.com

10-11 - TEMPLE, TX: Tri-City G&M Society South Central Federation Show; Frank Mayborn Civic & Convention Center, 3303 N Third St; Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; Adults \$2, Children under 12 free; faceting demonstrations, grab bags, treasure wheel, silent auction, displays; contact Leslie O Connally, 875 N Wheat Rd, Belton, TX 76513, (254) 939-7015; e-mail: lconnally@clearwire.net

November 2009

7-8 - AMARILLO, TX: Golden Spread G&M Society Show; Amarillo Civic Center, 401 S Buchanan; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; dealers, demonstrations, exhibits, door prizes, wheel of fortune, silent auction, 43-pound sapphire display; contact Dee Hawkins, 108 S Polk St, Amarillo, TX 79101, (806) 681-0960

7-8 - OKLAHOMA CITY, OK: Oklahoma G&M Society Show, "River of Gems"; OK State Fair Park, 3001 General Pershing Blvd; Sat 9-6, Sun 9-5; Adults \$6, Children 12 and under, Boy/Girl Scouts/Campfire members in uniform Free with Adult; museum and member exhibits, dealers, minerals, cabochons, faceted stones, findings, demonstrations, wire wrapping, silversmithing, knapping; contact Arlene Burkhalter, 1267 Kingbird Lane, Choctaw, OK 73020, (405) 732-0808; e-mail: maburkhalter@cox.net

13-15 - HUMBLE, TX: Houston G&M Society 56th Annual Show; Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy; Fri & Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; Adults \$7, Seniors & Students \$6, Children under 12 free; displays, gems, minerals, fossils, fluorescent rocks display; demonstrations, jewelry making, beading, lapidary, children's activities, Scout Merit badge program, famous "Dino Dig", jewelry, minerals, fossils; contact Patty Scott, 14906 Summerland Circle, Cypress, TX 77429, (281) 373-1578; e-mail: nigels_mom@sbcglobal.net; Website: www.hgms.org

13-15 - TULSA, OK: Retail and wholesale show; Bead Renaissance Shows; Expo Square, Exchange Ctr, 4145 E 21st St; Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; Free admission; bead artists, dealers, ancient, vintage, contemporary and designer beads, jewelry, tools, books; contact J&J Promotions LLC, PO Box 420, Williamsburg, NM 87942, (575) 894-1293; e-mail: beadshow@aol.com; Website: www.beadshow.com

13-15 - HOUSTON, TX: Houston G&M Society Presents 56th Annual HGMS Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, and Fossil Show Fri & Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5 Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Parkway, Humble, TX, 5 miles east of Bush International Airport, 1 mile east of Hwy 59

December 2009

4-6 - KENNER, LA: AKS Gem Shows; Pontchartrain Center, 4545 Williams Blvd; Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4; Adults \$5; classes in beading, PMC, chainmaille, and more; contact Kay Schabilion, (504) 455-6101; e-mail: info@aksshow.com; Website: www.aksshow.com

12-13 - DERIDDER, LA: DeRidder G&M Society Show; Beauregard Parish Fair Exhibit Hall, 610 West Dr; Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4; Adults \$2, military with current ID & Children under 12 Free; door prizes, jewelry, gems, cabs, wire wrapping, Louisiana opal, silent auction, hands-on instructions in flint knapping, cab making, gem faceting; contact Adam Valin, (337) 585-3693; e-mail: avalin1@bellsouth.net

Area Clubs

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club, Garland Women's Bldg., 713 Austin, Garland, meets the 1st Thursday 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 Paleontological Society, Dallas Museum of Natural History, Fair Park, meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm
Dallas Gem & Mineral Society, Ridgewood Rec. Center, 6818 Fisher Road, Dallas, meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm
Dallas Bead Society, Walnut Hill Rec Center, NW corner Walnut Hill & Midway, Dallas, meets 3rd Thursday each month at 7:30 pm
Oak Cliff Gem & Mineral Society, Renaissance Hospital, 2929 S. Hampton Road, Dallas, TX, meets 4th Tuesday each month at 7 pm
Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club, 3545 Bryan Avenue, Fort Worth, TX, meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm

Feature Article

As taken from LiveScience.com, by Charles Q. Choi. It at least makes for an interesting short read. POGM Editor

“Prehistoric “Runway” Used by Flying Reptile”



Charles Q. Choi
Special to LiveScience
LiveScience.com – Wed Aug 19, 9:26 am ET

A prehistoric runway for flying pterosaurs has been discovered for the first time.

Scientists uncovered the first known landing tracks of one of these extinct flying reptiles at a site dubbed "Pterosaur Beach," in the fine-grained limestone deposits of an ancient lagoon in southwestern France dating back some 140 million years ago to the Late Jurassic.

The footprints suggest the pterosaur - a "pterodactyloid" with a wingspan roughly three feet wide (one meter) - flapped to stall its flight during landing, and then planted both its two-inch-long feet (five cm) simultaneously at a high angle. The reptile next dragged its toes briefly, took a short "stutter step" - perhaps a hop with both feet - and landed, settling its hands. It finally adjusted its posture and ambled off normally on all fours.

"No other trackways ascribed to pterosaurs in the world have shown either landings or takeoffs," said researcher Kevin Padian, a paleontologist at the University of California at Berkeley.

Pterosaurs, like birds, "were very light animals, and didn't tend to leave as many tracks when compared to, say, a 50-ton sauropod," the largest dinosaurs to ever stride the earth, explained paleontologist David Hone at the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology of China in Beijing, who did not participate in this study.

"If tracks from pterosaurs are going to get preserved, it's likely to be in the softest muds or finest sands, and it's unlikely even then, so to get traces of a pterosaur landing like this is very exciting," Hone noted. He added the case the researchers make for the way the pterosaurs landed "is very strong and convincing."

The fact this pterosaur had the capability to stall during flight implies sophisticated flapping control of the wings, Padian said. Future research will hopefully uncover tracks made during takeoff, shedding further light on how these extinct creatures once flew.

"There are hundreds of trackways in this big quarry," Padian said.

Original Story: [Prehistoric 'Runway' Used by Flying Reptile](#)

[LiveScience.com](#) chronicles the daily advances and innovations made in science and technology. We take on the misconceptions that often pop up around scientific discoveries and deliver short, provocative explanations with a certain wit and style.



For a real treat, consider attending: The South Central Federation Convention
It is being held in Temple, Texas October 10 & 11, 2009

Don't forget about the InterGem Show:
Work days; September 30–October 1; Show; October 2–4, 2009

Did you know?

Submitted by POGM Editor
As written by the Editor of www.scvgms.org

Hints to make life easier

Slow down that tarnish! Tarnish is caused by sulfur gases in the air. Chalk naturally absorbs sulfur. Place sticks of ordinary chalk in your cases, and jewelry boxes. Put it in your tool chest, too, since it also absorbs moisture. *I have chalk in a few places along with Pacific Silver Cloth and Ziploc bags.*

To make labels that glow in the dark for fluorescent rocks, mix quinine and water to use for ink. It glows a bright bluish-white under black light.

White vinegar can get that epoxy off your cab. Just soak the cab in a little bowl of vinegar. It takes anywhere from a few minutes to overnight. *I've tried this and it works.*

Discourage those snails! Don't throw away those worn out sandpaper discs. Instead, cut a slit up the radius, and lay them down like a collar around the stems of your plants. Slugs won't cross the scratchy surface! *I'm going to try this one!*

Editor's Note: *I haven't tried these ideas; unless, otherwise noted. Caution and common sense are advised when trying any new product or procedure. You're on your own!*

A Different Kind of Rock Show

Submitted by Editor, Posted by <http://www.mcc.org/reliefsales/>

The Mennonite Relief Sale is an annual fundraiser and festival held since 1978 by the Mennonite, Amish, and Brethren in Christ churches of Oklahoma. The proceeds from the event go to Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), a worldwide relief and service agency. Similar relief sales take place annually in twenty-three states and five Canadian provinces, generating about four million dollars for MCC programs. For two decades the Oklahoma Relief Sale was held in Fairview; in 1998 it was moved to the Chisholm Trail Pavilion in Enid. Typically, about forty-four churches participate.

Held in November, the event includes an auction of everything from artwork to quilts, from antique cars to wooden toys. In addition, there are food booths, crafts produced by Third World artisans, children's activities, and musical entertainment. Auction bidders raise the prices of items so that the money paid rarely reflects the true value of the goods. People at the sales are buying something more tangible; they are reaching out to help their needy neighbors throughout the world. Currently, the record high price paid for an Oklahoma sale quilt is \$6,800. A feature quilt made cooperatively by quilters from all the sponsoring churches is a tradition with the Oklahoma sale. Ethnic foods, German, German-Russian, Amish, and American Indian, abound. Old-Order Amish serve homemade ice cream frozen in a large, gasoline-powered freezer. Over two million dollars have been contributed to MCC from the proceeds of the Oklahoma sales.

Oklahoma Mennonite Relief Sale
November 6 & 7
Garfield County Fairgrounds, Enid, OK
Event Contact: Don Gerbrandt
Phone (580) 234-3247
Email: donair@suddenlink.net
Website: <http://www.mcc.org/reliefsales/>

This sale is one of many held in the United States and Canada to raise money for the Mennonite Central Committee, the relief, service, and community development agency of Mennonite and Brethren in Christ churches. The event features many handmade and homemade items including quilts, artwork, crafted woodwork, household goods, antiques, crafts, and food.

Editor Note: *Sounds like and I have been told, it is very much fun to take in and not too far away, possibly a day trip.*

Resource: <http://digital.library.okstate.edu/encyclopedia/entries/O/OK063.html>

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL



To:

5th Place AFMS 2007 small bulletins
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

September 3, 2009 7:30 PM, 713 Austin, Garland Women's Bldg, TX

**Pleasant Oak Gem & Mineral
Club Meeting**

First Thursday of each month, 7:30 PM
Garland Women's Activities Building
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)

Affiliated with

American Federation of Mineral Societies

Member of

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies