

GEM SCOOPS



Vol. 49, No. 11

Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society

November 2011

Ponderings From the Podium

This could be the most important meeting the PDGMS has ever had!!

Your attendance, participation and insight are vital to the continued existence of your club. We still do not have nominees for the positions of President, Vice-President and Treasurer. Without officers to perform the responsibilities of these offices your club can no longer function.

The Field Trip Chairman advised me that he only received one response to his e-mail regarding who was interested in attending the trip or expressing a choice of location for the field trip.

Neither of these situations bodes well for the future of the club. Attend this meeting and voice your opinions and offer your support; **it may be your last opportunity to do either.**

Larry

DECEMBER MEETING December 20, 2011

The December meeting will be our annual Christmas Party. In the past this has included a covered dish dinner and an exchange of hobby-related presents marked "man," "woman," or "either."

We will decide at the November meeting just how this year's party will be run.

NOVEMBER MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, November 16, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Clemson-Central Library, 105 Commons Way, Central.

TOPIC: Mineral Identification for Fun

SPEAKER: Virginia Meador

PROGRAM: Virginia will bring 25 to 30 mineral specimens that are somehow connected with other specimens. Sometimes the relationship is obvious; other times not so obvious. There will be no exam, but we will work together in groups or individually to fill out a work sheet with the identification of each specimen and the relationship to other specimens. Come learn how to identify minerals.

Virginia Meador teaches Science in Camperdown Academy in Greenville. She is active in local gem and mineral societies and is particularly interested in the specialty of Micromounting. She teaches at Wildacres workshops and has been Wildacres Director for the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies.

Refreshments will be set up at 7:00 p.m. by Ed and Jeanne Overly and the meeting will start at about 7:15. Visitors are always welcome.

Editorial Opinion

The Pendleton Gem and Mineral Society is at risk! It seems like we are back exactly as we were two years ago: It is time to elect a new slate of offices for the coming year. However, we have no slate. It seems that none of the newer and younger members is willing to fill the offices that must be filled for the organization to survive.

The current membership includes about a half dozen members who have been in the club for 20 or more years. They have held multiple offices, often over and over again. Many of their contemporaries are no longer with us. Now it is time for newer and younger folks to take over so that the senior

Continued on Page 2.

Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society

Minutes of General Meeting October 19, 2011

Location: Central/Clemson Library Meeting Room

Attendance: 11 members

President, Larry Boller, called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm. Refreshments were provided by Regina Kerns and Linda Martin.

Continued on Page 2.

2011 Officers

President:	Larry Boller	864-296-8077
V.P.:	Ed Overly	864-328-3057
Secretary:	Cecelia Jackson	864-261-3580
Treasurer:	Phyllis Phillips	864-654-8514

2011 Directors

Dave Cicimurri	864-650-7115
Jim Duzenberry	864-654-5741
Fred Sias	864-654-6833
Rich Warner	864-654-0913

General Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Program: There was no formal program. Several members brought in specimens for show and tell.

Break: There was no raffle this month. All members are encouraged to bring items to be raffled.

Business Meeting: The minutes for the September 2011 meeting were approved. The treasurer's report was provided by Boller.

New Business: John Palmer advises that possible upcoming field trip sites include Buck Creek, Franklin NC (beryl, garnet); gold panning in Pickens County; Lost Dutch Man; Graves Mountain/Hill. John will email everyone to see what the preferences are. John's email is charon13.5@gmail.com. Members are also invited to check out GPAA, Gold Prospectors Association of America via Google.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.


Regina Kerns
Acting Secretary

Editorial Opinion (Continued)

members will have someone to pass information to.

These senior members don't want to desert the club. They have lots of useful data, contacts, and maps to turn over to the next generation.

We need a President. He or she does not have to be an expert on gems or mineralogy, merely an interest in seeing that meetings are scheduled and speakers are invited. He or she also should call board meetings to enlist the aid and experience of the senior members who I am sure will be willing to serve as



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2011
Columbia Gem & Mineral Society
44th Annual

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Directors.

Next we need a Vice President who customarily serves as Program Chairman and is expected to move up the ladder to the Presidency. Now, just because one becomes the VP and Program Chair, does not mean that this person must know all the potential speakers. Again, the senior members can provide the names of potential speakers. Just ask them.

It is generally easier to find a Treasurer or Secretary because these offices do not require any knowledge of gems or minerals. Senior members can also help, if necessary.

Field trips and workshops are also important aspects of a Gem and Mineral society. Most of the senior members have led field trips and can pass on the locations. The club can also become a member of the DMC which is part of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies and sponsors collaborative field trips.

The club owns a large selection of shop equipment and tools

that were put in storage when we lost our workshop on the Clemson campus. Included are Diamond Pacific capping machines, a faceting machine, torches, casting equipment, metal-working hand tools, and supplies. The workshops can again become active when we find space for a shop. Do you have any ideas?

Finally, the PDGMS is part of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Annual workshops, Program Libraries and many other aids are available. Adjacent clubs in Greenville, Greenwood, and Hendersonville, are worth visiting. This way you become acquainted with others with similar interests to yours and, of course, potential speakers to invite to our club.

Please, members, don't let the PDGMS die at the end of the year. Come to the November and December meetings and help the Nominating Committee nominate and elect next year's officers.

Fred