



GEM SCOOPS



Vol. 49, No. 10

Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society

October 2011

Show, Swap and Sell in October

Ponderings

From the Podium

It looks as though fall is really here. Vacations are over, and the kids are back in school. Some stores are even starting to put up Christmas decorations and advertise Christmas items for pre-Christmas purchase. Even though it seems to get earlier every year, it never hurts to plan ahead. That is a problem that we are facing here in the PDGMS. We need to plan ahead for next year so we can meet the new year with a running start. We cannot do that without a full complement of officers, and quite frankly, nobody is jumping up and saying "Yes, nominate me, I want to help the club grow."

Our Constitution requires us to publish a list of nominees prior to the October meeting and we may not be able to comply with that dictum with a full slate of nominees because of the lack of sufficient numbers of people who are willing to serve in the various positions. As you may (or may not) remember, we almost had to close down the club last December because of this same problem. Those folks who stepped up last year have done a commendable job in keeping OUR club operating this year. We have brought in a

**NEXT MEETING
November 16, 2011**

OCTOBER MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, October 19 2011, 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: Clemson-Central Library, 105 Commons Way, Central.

The program for the October PDGMS meeting will be a member participation night. Let's call it (S)3, or, if you prefer S to the third power. This is the acronym for Show, Swap and Sell! Bring in those specimens that you are especially proud of to SHOW, bring in any other items that you would be willing to SWAP or SELL, and bring a little cash so you can fulfill your desire to own what another member is willing to SELL. The main goal of this program is for everyone to have fun in interacting with the other members, with the additional benefits of maybe learning a bit more about gems and minerals while having the opportunity to add to your collections.

Guests and visitors are always welcome. Refreshments will be served by Regina Kerns.

number of new and energetic members who have greatly re-energized the club, Now we need to elect some new leadership to keep this growth progressing. Call me (Chairman of the Nominating Committee) and voice your willingness to serve. We all need to be involved.

Do you want to go on a Mineral-collecting Field trip?

The Field Trip Committee is a standing committee of the Southeast Federation and is probably a standing committee in every club in the Federation. But it takes an active committee chairperson to actually go on field trips. The weather is now getting cool enough but your Editor has not received any information about field trips. I hope we hear of some plans at the next meeting.

**Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society
Minutes of General Meeting
September 21, 2011**

Location: Central/Clemson Library Meeting Room
Attendance: 20 including 4 visitors. President, Larry Boller, called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm and welcomed the visitors. The meeting was started a little late due to a dance class meeting from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Wonderful refresh-

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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 Dusenberry	864-654-5741
Fred Sias	864-654-6833
Rich Warner	864-654-0913

General Meeting Minutes (Continued)

ments were provided by Michelle Stevens.

Business Meeting: The previous meeting minutes were approved. Larry Boller read the monthly report provided by the Treasurer which was accepted by membership. Cecelia Jackson, Secretary, has resigned due to personal family issues. Regina Kerns, Publicity Chair, has volunteered to take minutes for the last 2 meetings of the year. A new secretary will be appointed at the December Christmas Party. Notifications for the club meeting were publicized in the *Easley Progress*, *Hometown*, *Anderson Independent Mail*, *Pickens Sentinel*, and *Seneca Journal*.

Old Business:

The club is still in need of a Youth Committee Chairperson as well as a Door Prize/Raffle chairperson. Larry mentioned that there were some really nice specimens donated recently.

New Business:

The picnic was a success. A good time was had by all. Because the current meeting place has a kitchen available, it is possible to have the Christmas party at the Library.

Regina Kerns volunteered to provide refreshments at the October meeting.

A nominating committee was established to recruit a slate of officers for 2012. Committee members include: Fred Sias, John Denney, Larry Boller, Ansel Miller, and Ted Wallenius.



This is the "main pit" at Graves Mountain in Georgia. Last weekend it was open for collecting to gem and mineral club members as well as the general public. This mine has been an important site for collecting a number of minerals including Rutile, Kyanite, Lazulite, Iridescent Hematite, Pyrophyllite, Pyrite, Ilmenite, Fuchsite, Barite, Sulfur, Variscite, blue quartz and quartz crystals.

Mineral collecting is an important function of gem and mineral clubs. Unfortunately, the PDGMS has not been active with many collecting field trips during this year and I think we are losing membership because of this. I am not sure why. I think we need to get field trips going again but it appears that the senior club members who have led trips in the past are getting "worn out" or involved in other activities such as grandparenting.

It doesn't take much to lead a field trip to one of these well-known sites. Anyone can be a field trip leader simply by contacting the hosts at the collecting site. There are other sites that don't require special admission arrangements. I will be pleased to pass on information to anyone with organizational skills or motivation.

Fred Sias, Editor.

The meeting night was put to a vote and membership agreed to maintain Wednesday nights through 2012.

As of the end of the meeting, there was no presentation slated for October. Fred suggested Jocelyn Campbell from Wildacres to do a program on wire wrap. Larry suggested a gold panning trip.

Program: Bob Turner presented a program on many of the specimens he has collected from around the world from as early as the 1960s. The presentation was very informative about fossils, locations for collecting, and basic geological data. Bob is a self-taught rockhound with no formal

training. He enjoys speaking at schools and club meetings such as PDGMS. He sells his specimens at the Anderson Jockey Lot spaces 416 and 418.

Break: Raffle tickets were sold for donated items. There were seven winners. All members are encouraged to bring more specimens. An auction was conducted to sell collecting equipment and a total of \$78 will be added to the club's activity fund?

Respectfully submitted,
Cecelia Jackson,
Secretary