

Jun 2005

“CUTTING REMARKS”

The Official Publication of the Old Pueblo Lapidary Club
520-323-9154

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Vice President - Phil Babcock 498-5058
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Jim Griffin - 578-3765

Please join us on **June 11th**
for the next meeting. **And...**
this is a **“Potluck Meeting.”**
Please call **Sheila Powell** ,
Chairperson, at **578-1976** if
you have any questions.



Articles or news to be included in the Cutting Remarks should be emailed to your editor, Wayne Klement wayneklem@aol.com, or feel free to call him at 546-9404. Submission deadline is the 25th of each month. Thanks!

See us online at: www.lapidaryclub.org

THE PREZ SEEZ.....by Bill Carmody



I decided that I am going to be completely selfish this month and not even try to hide or disguise it.

First, let me brag about my acacia tree right next to my driveway. It is now in full bloom yielding redolence from just this side of heaven. And “mi tres” amigos (we have three big saguaros on the end of the house that appear to be suffering from the heartbreak of psoriasis), have buds and flowers all over them. Now I have to figure out some way to con my wife into making jelly. Isn't there always something nice going on in the desert, except for this conning activity us males lower ourselves to from time to time?

Now let's get back to that selfish thing I was talking about. Thinking back to the beginning of our journey in early January, I selfishly maintain that our accomplishments in the Club so far have exceeded my most conservative estimates by at least 80%. And if you don't believe this, just go back and read through the recent issues of our Newsletter.

I am afraid I have to do a lot of this blaming for these accomplishments on those that got voted in with me. I don't want to get any “love fest” started here. But, I

have to shamelessly admit to callously using their ideas, talents, judgments and inputs.

Now, there go our “snow birds”, off to do their own stuff and to accomplish their summer agendas. I can't believe we ever convinced them that “snowbird” is a derogatory term. They work their tail feathers off all winter down here improving our club and enriching our membership, and then plan to keep their areas of vested interests viable while they are gone. I hate to keep picking on Editor Wayne, but I selfishly let Wayne turn our Club Newsletter into one of the best in the West through his efforts and inspirations.

Also I have selfishly provided you with the best Club Secretary (Ursula Wilson), the best Treasurer (Donna Pugh), and the best Vice President (Phil Babcock) as well. Even the Board of Directors seems to reflect how my selfishness knows no bounds.

Enough with this selfish stuff. I would like to see a casting class started this month (June). Jaime, as soon as you have enough students signed up, let's make it happen.

Our established classes and open labs have been doing

bang-up jobs and I have witnessed a significant number of prize finished products coming out of our labs. Building this type of expertise is what our facilities are all about.

The more I see of this Club and its members the more I like it. I am really looking forward to the potluck season getting revved up. I am especially looking forward to our get-together with the TGMS in July. TGMS president, Bill Hodgson, will join our June potluck meeting to talk about our July potluck, extend his club's welcome and answer questions we might have. I look forward to a robust turnout for this and the chance to forge new, comfortable, and exciting, relationships with kindred spirits. Please make Bill feel completely welcome during his time with us.

One last selfish request for this month: I want to go for Pecos Diamonds just as soon as this ruptured disk will let me.

((And, Wayne, if you see a guy with cheekful of WD-40 between teeth and gums, smack him for me.))

Will Rogers, who died in a plane crash with Wylie Post in 1935, was probably the greatest political sage this country has ever known. Enjoy the following:

1. Never slap a man who's chewing tobacco.
2. Never kick a cow chip on a hot day.
3. There are 2 theories to arguing with a woman...neither works.
4. Never miss a good chance to shut up. (My favorite ... Ed.)
5. Always drink upstream from the herd.
6. If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging.
7. The quickest way to double your money is to fold it and put it back in your pocket.
8. There are three kinds of men: The ones that learn by reading. The few who learn by observation. The rest of them have to pee on the electric fence and find out for themselves.
9. Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.
10. If you're riding' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

By Ursula Wilson

MEETING MINUTES May 14, 2005

President Bill Carmody called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM. A quorum was present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We were happy to see Bill at the podium after his recent back surgery. He will be going to Colorado in June and regrets not being here for the June meeting and OPLC potluck. Phil Babcock will fill in for Bill. Have a good trip Bill. We will look forward to seeing you at the July meeting.

The joint potluck with TGMS will be on July 16, at 5:00. This will be an excellent opportunity to meet with our colleagues and explore ways to work together.

Volunteers—the club depends on you. We want to say thanks to all of you for your time and effort. Sheila Powell, many thanks to you for your expertise taking care of our weeds. Last month we were concerned about a dangerous rug problem. It was taken care of before the meeting was over. Good job to one and all.

A special thanks to all the donations to the Gaye Davidson Fund.

OLD BUSINESS

Shad Blair thanked the OPLC for the opportunity to organize our demonstrations and displays for the County Fair. A letter was sent to us from Peggy Bauemfiend, Manager, Old Pueblo Hall, Pima County Fair, in appreciation for our being a part of it. Bill Carmody observed that our area was heavily trafficked and a lot of interest was shown in our mineral activities. The kids really loved it.

Billy Bob Riley suggested we could use more silversmithing work in our display case. We need to continue to focus on OPLC participation plans for next year's Tucson Gem & Mineral Show and continue to explore activities associated with Beaudry's movement into the exhibition arena.

NEW BUSINESS

Sylvia Czayo announced that we have celebrities in our midst. The Arizona Highways magazine did a feature article on Harrison Yocum with a picture of two of our OPLC members with him, Donna Pugh and Diane Braswell. A copy of the issue will be put in the library. Harrison was also made a lifetime member of the TGMS. Bill asked Sylvia if she would be our club historian? She will give it some thought, but reminded us she will need lots of pictures "Dead or Alive."

Sheila Powell proposed that we set our dates for the potlucks in June, October, December and every three months there after. They would be held after the business meetings. A motion was made, seconded, and passed.

We would like to have our regular casting classes get started again will give us the full spectrum of basic casting. Art Kavan and Jamie De Zubeldia were asked to coordinate with each other to ensure we have the equipment we require and the topics to be covered to make the first class out a doable success. The ball is in Jaime's court as to when the course starts and how many students it will have the first time out.

Billy Bob Riley would like to get another cabbings class started



on Monday nights.

If there is any news on classes, please get in touch with Phil Babcock well in advance of the first class. Phil has put up sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for a chain making class given by Dave Arens.

Donna Pugh informed us of a program called PIT. It is a volunteer program working with professional archeologists at sites around the country plus other related subjects. To find out more about this contact Jim Farley. There will be the email address and contact numbers in the Newsletter for this program (Ed Note: See article on Page 5).

Dave Witwer reminded us again about the Rocky Mountain Federation Show to be held in Colorado Springs, Colorado, June 17-19.

How about some field trips? Think about that and other programs we could have after the business meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM.

The raffle was held after the meeting.

OPTICON PROGRAM

Reprinted by permission from Tony Amshoff (Thank you, Tony)

The use of Opticon gives one a chance to enjoy seeing and using finished products which otherwise might have been scrapped.

The most important step is the cleaning of the material. If there is residual oil in the cracks the Opticon will NOT work. Put your cut pieces into a container of kitty litter ----- -- generic brand is dustier and works better ---- for days, weeks, or months. Leave them until no oil shows at the crack site. You think this takes too long? Remember, it makes the difference between success and failure! If the cleaning is stubborn, try using a spic and span solution in an ultrasonic cleaner. Wash off residual dust etc.

To facilitate getting the resin into the cracks, the material must be heated. Tony made a double decker rack to go above his shop heater. Put in a layer of slabs and go about other work. When they are too hot to handle they are ready. Best to do this at the end of your work period so you can leave the smelly place for a few hours.

Mix the resin with the hardener according to the box instructions. Use a glass container with measuring marks. (no paper cups which seem to lessen effectiveness) and a popsicle stick for a stirrer. Stir for several minutes -- until cloudiness disappears.

When ready, use an acid brush to apply the Opticon to the cracks. Do NOT just layer it on the area. It needs agitation to break surface tension so it can penetrate. Keep brushing it, adding more resin if the crack isn't full. You have close to a half hour to muddle it around before it starts to set up.

Turn off the heat, turn out the lights, and call it a day! Tony says he has occasionally seen Opticon ooze through the bottom of a slab.

If you feel the need to apply resin to the other side of the slab reheat and do so. If you try to turn slabs and do the procedure at one time, you may have slabs sticking to unwanted surfaces.

In Tucson summer heat (at least 90 degrees and no breeze) you can put the slabs in the sun at 10:00 AM. By two o'clock the material should be hot enough to treat. Always remember --- the heat is necessary for application and for curing of the resin.

If you have a crack that produces a crumbling slab, clean the rock and coat the outside forming a sort of shell. When it has cured, cut slabs and then clean and then treat them. You can saw, grind, and polish as usual but you should use a moist buff for polishing to lessen heat build-up.

To glue pieces together, or to fill large pits, use 330 Epoxy in the same way. You may need to use both materials.

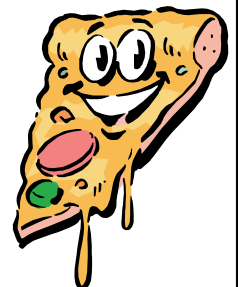
Clean your glass beaker and your brush with Paint and Epoxy remover (paint remover will not do the trick). After a while the acid brush will need replacing.

Occasionally you will find a non-receptive stone but Opticon usually works and on all materials.



JULY POTLUCK

There will be a joint TGMS/Old Pueblo Lapidary Club potluck on July 16, 5:00, PM at the TGMS clubhouse which is located at 3727 E Blackledge. The building is labeled "ADOBE BRIDGE CLUB." Please bring a salad or a dessert. The Clubs will be furnishing pizza. It would be greatly appreciated if you would RSVP by July 9, so we will know how much pizza to order.



Ursula Wilson
733-1654

A MODEL CHURCH

Reprinted from *The Stone Age Holiday Edition 1993* – Georgia Marble Company Newsletter

Bob Coffin, a resident of Tucson, recently requested a small marble boulder to be used for a special project that his organization was working on. The Old Pueblo Lapidary Club of Tucson was constructing a model church to be placed on display at the Tucson Convention Center during a gem show.

The group used the marble to make the clapboard siding and headstones for the church, which is shown here. The stone was slabbed into 1/8–inch thick pieces, then cut into 1-inch strips. The result was a sparkling white building.



Other materials used include over 1,600 tips cut from pine cones

and glued to the roof, stained glass for the 10 windows, petrified wood

for the foundation and steps, pink onyx for the Chick Sales (two seater) out back, stone for the hitching rails and horse trough, and Owyhee jasper for the pews and preacher's chair.

Obviously, many hours and lots of imagination and talent went into the project. A quote from Saint-Exupery comes to mind, which is also very appropriate for Georgia Marble as a whole: "A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man contemplates it, bearing within him the image of a cathedral."



OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE USDA FOREST SERVICE — "PASSPORT IN TIME"

Reprinted from the *PIT Traveler*
Vol. 16, No. 1,
June-November 2005

Passport in Time (PIT) is a volunteer program of the USDA Forest Service (FS). PIT volunteers work with professional FS archaeologists and historians on national forest throughout the country on such diverse activities as archaeological excavation and survey, historic structure restoration, and analysis and curation of artifacts.

The goal of PIT is to preserve the nation's past with the help of the public. As a PIT volunteer, you will help us understand the human story in North America and preserve the sites that tell that story for our children and grandchildren.

PIT is available to everyone, regardless of age and ability. The level of accessibility ranges from easy to difficult, depending on the activity and project location. If you have a specific question about the physical requirements for any project, please contact the PIT Clearinghouse.

There is no registration fee. The *PIT Traveler*, published in March and September, lists the projects and includes an application form. Thank you for helping us save the past for the future. We cannot do it without you!

Jill A. Osborn
PIT National Coordinator.

CONTACTS:

To request the PIT Traveler, find out about projects, and ask about volunteering, contact:

Passport in Time Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 31315
Tucson, AZ 85751-1315
Phone: 800-281-9176
Fax: 520-722-1627

View projects and apply on-line at
www.passportintime.com



WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Mondays 1-4 PM

Faceting Guild - Fee charged - experienced faceters only
Contact Paul Head 296-0331

Beginning Cabbing - Fee charged
Contact Billy Bob Riley 408-3074

Mondays 6-9 PM

Beginning Faceting - Class Fee charged
Contact Earl Zoeller 886-3518

Beginning Cabbing - Class Fee charged
Contact Billy Bob Riley 408-3074

Tuesdays 8 AM Work Groups

Tuesdays 9 AM – Noon

Open Shop. Fee charged, Beginners welcome. Tools and equipment available.

Monitor – Ron Davidson 749-3157
Rock Sawing – Dave Arens 749-2113

Tuesdays 6-9 PM

Open Lapidary Lab - Fee Charged. Beginners welcome. Tools/equipment available.
Contact Rim Tallet-Kelspa 760-8704

Open Silversmith Lab - Fee charged
Contact Bob Keller 808-6546

Thursdays 1 PM – 4 PM

Beginning Cabbing - Fee charged
Contact Billy Bob Riley 408-3074

Fridays 6-9 PM

Beginning Faceting - Fee charged
Contact Rob Kulakofsky 792-1439

Saturdays 10-3 PM



** NEW TIME**

Open Shop - Fee charged
Contact Ron Davidson 749-3157

WELCOME - NEW MEMBERS

Carol Clinkingbeard
Erika & James Darling
John J. Kleber
Thomas Stout

COMMITTEES

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & EQUIPMENT

Ron Davidson 749-3157

CLASSES & PROGRAMS

Phil Babcock 498-5058

CLUB HISTORIAN

TBD

FIELD TRIPS

Rim Tallat-Kelspa 760-8704

Don Feyrer 661-7855

JUNIOR EDUCATION

Gretchen Arnaiz 747-1511

KITCHEN

General Membership

LIBRARIAN

Cathy Van Atta 256-6869

MEMBERSHIP

Jim Griffin 578-3765

SECURITY

Marion Russell 622-5506

SILENT AUCTIONS

Jim Griffin 578-3765

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **June 1-14 — SHANIKO, OREGON:** 2nd annual show; Rambling Rockhounds; along Hwy. 97
- **June 4-5 — RACINE, WISCONSIN:** Swap/Sell; Racine Geological Soc.; Bartlett Youth Center
- **June 11-12 — CARROLLTON, MICHIGAN:** Lapidary and gemcraft seminar; Michigan Geology & Gemcraft Society; Carrollton Middle School
- **June 17 - 19 — 41st Annual Pikes Peak Gem & Mineral Show, "A Rock Hounds Paradise".** Go to "www.csms.us" for additional information.
- **June 29-July 3 — Madras, Oregon:** Jefferson County Fairgrounds Gem & Mineral Show—56th Year!



REMINDER #1

The club will be opened at 8:00 AM for socializing before the general business meeting.



REMINDER #2

Begin planning now. The next Silent Auction will be held November 5. See Jim Griffin, Chairperson, for details (or call 578-3765).

Answers to last Month's "A GEM OF A STORY"

A QUARIE MAN = AQUAMARINE	RIFLE OUT = FLUORITE
ODD NAIM = DIAMOND	MAD LEER = EMERALD
QUIET, RUSO = TURQUOISE	HI LAME CAT = MALACHITE
THY STEAM = AMETHYST	I CARVES IT = VARISCITE
MATURE LION = TOURMALINE	PA ATE IT = APATITE

++ CLEARANCE- - - STILL! ++
ROCKS & MORE FOR SALE
Ron Davidson - 9219 E. Kayenta
749-3157

Agates, Petrified Wood, Picture Jasper, Thunder Eggs, Obsidian, Geodes, Slabs, and more. Call to arrange for appointment to preview items desired.

Help Wanted

Member responses to the questionnaire revealed that more open lab times and classes are needed. For this to happen, **MORE VOLUNTEERS** are required to staff instructor and monitor positions. Please contact Phil Babcock at 498-5058 if you would be interested in volunteering Please!!

ADVERTISERS WANTED

Open to members who want to place a one-time or continuous ad. The fee is \$3.00 for 1/8 page. Best Deals in town. Contact Bob Keim 690-1830 or Rosie Paige 745-6603

DONATIONS

Please contact one of the following individuals if you are interested in donating materials (rocks, equipment, etc.) to the Old Pueblo Lapidary Club: Art Kavan 297-8798 or Bill Carmody 760-8598



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OPLC Membership Application - Please Print

Name1 _____ Name 2 _____

Local Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone number (____) _____ Email address _____

Summer Address _____

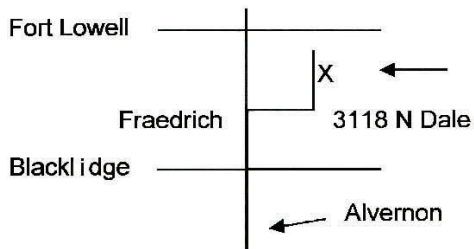
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Summer Dates: From _____ To _____

Type of membership: ___New single member \$20.00 , ___New Couple (same address) \$30.00 , ___New Junior \$7.50

Yearly Renewal: ___Single \$15.00 , ___Couple \$20.00, ___Junior \$7.50

Mail to: Membership Chairperson, Old Pueblo Lapidary Club, 3118 N. Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712



The Business Meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month which starts at 9:00 a.m. A pre-meeting social hour is at 8:00 a.m. for those that are interested. Visitors are welcome.