

# “CUTTING REMARKS”

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

## Officers

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2024 - 2025 Wayne Klement 520-954-6298  
2025 Amanda Rodriguez 727-313-1662

Advisor - David Schulte 520-954-8554 (Past President)

Membership Chairperson - Jan Keisler 520-333-3398

Please join us **March 8**  
**at 9:00am** for the next  
monthly meeting.  
There is an optional  
social hour that  
begins at 8:00am  
followed by the  
monthly business  
meeting. Visitors are  
always welcome.



Articles or news to be included in the *Cutting Remarks* should be emailed to your Editor, Wayne Klement (waynekle@aol.com) or call him at 520-954-6298. Submission deadline is the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Thanks! Email address: oplc3118@gmail.com

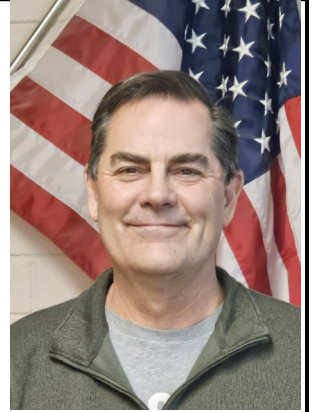
See us online at: [www.lapidaryclub.org](http://www.lapidaryclub.org)

Email address: [oplc3118@yahoo.com](mailto:oplc3118@yahoo.com)

## **THE PREZ SEZ ..... by Jack McCabe, President**

**March is here and it's almost time for our tailgate sale. It will be on Saturday March 15th from 8am to Noon. If you would like to sell any of your treasures contact John Poole and I hope to see everyone there for a great show. There is a suggested \$10 donation per table.**

**I'm pleased to announce that the U.S. Faceters Guild Frolic and Hob Nob last month was our most successful to date. This is our second largest fundraiser after the November auction. Thanks to Dave Richardson, Mike Tucker, David Schulte, Chuck Lundstrom, and Wayne Klement for all their hard work putting this event on for the club.**



**The TGMS show was very successful and thanks to all the members who helped man the booth: Dave Richardson, Mariza Davidson, Mark and Patti Davidson, William (Bill) Penrose, Wayne Klement, Mo Garrett, Chuck Lundstrom, Brianne McNally, Janet Keisler, Jane Morris, Rod and Sandra Trevino, Mike Copeland, Kim Edwards, Mike Wendler, Janet Everett, Jerry and Anneliese Foley, Nancy Delvaux, Amanda Rodriguez, Jack and Teresa McCabe, David Schulte. Special thanks to Wendy Huber for coordination with TGMS and our volunteers and for the great job setting up our display case (I thought it looked great).**

**Just for clarification, our cabbng class run by Brian and Donovan is \$45 per person and starts the first Monday and Tuesday of the month from 6 to 9pm.**

**One of our Board members, Amanda Rodriguez, is moving and has resigned her position. If you would like to help the club and become a member of the Board, please let me or any Board member know.**

**I would also like to thank Shiela Powell, Allan Morgan, Chris Flanagan, and Mike Wendler for their donations to the club education program which gives rock samples to educators so that their students can learn about the world of minerals. If you have any samples that you would like to donate to enhance the program please contact Teresa McCabe.**

**Finally, at the last meeting the club decided that we would start a Show and Tell section of the meeting. If you have any examples of projects you created in the labs or if you have been to a good rockhounding area and would like to tell the club about it, we would love to hear from you.**

## MARCH 8, 2025, OPLC SPEAKER CLAIRE SCRAGG

### Being a Gem Detective



Claire Scragg, photo courtesy Claire Scragg; gemological instruments; Helen and Claire, TGMS Show, courtesy HSH

We are in for a special treat for our March 8, 2025, OPLC monthly meeting, with **Claire Scragg** FGA DGA GG (GIA), presenting **Being a Gem Detective**. Are you curious about how gemologists test and identify gemstones? Or maybe you have a passion for gems and want to learn how to become a gemologist? In this presentation, Claire shares, “we’ll briefly explore the different pathways to becoming a gemologist and take a closer look at the skills and tools used to evaluate and authenticate gemstones. Think of gemologists as detectives—piecing together clues to uncover the true identity of a gem. By the end of our time together, you’ll have a clearer understanding of what gemologists do, the equipment they use, and the investigative techniques they employ. Plus, we’ll share the best resources to help you start your own journey as a gem detective!”

Claire Scragg comes with an incredible depth of knowledge. She began her journey with gems and jewelry in the 1990s working in a family-owned retail jewelers store in Great Britain. Over that time, her fascination and love of gemstones grew into a passion which brought her to full-time study with the Gemological Association of Great Britain (Gem-A), whose headquarters are in London’s jewelry district of Hatton Garden. Claire joined Gem-A as a full-time instructor in 2004 in London and participated at conferences and seminars in London and at overseas. She has written articles for gem and jewelry trade publications in the UK and USA. Claire moved to the USA in 2017 working with Gem-A and JTV to establish the first ‘in-person’ gemological teaching center for Gem-A’s gemological programs here in the USA.

Claire's passion and enthusiasm for gemstones, minerals, and gemology education have also taken her on gemological adventures around the world. She has travelled to the gemstone mines of Europe, USA, East Africa, Brazil, Madagascar, and Sri-Lanka, but her home and happy place is now here in Tucson working as a freelance gemologist and volunteering as a Docent at the UofA Alfie Norville Gem and Mineral museum.

Please make sure you don’t miss this great speaker, Helen Serras-Herman, OPLC Program Chair.

## **MINUTES OF OPLC MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

February 1, 2025, at 9:00 am at OPLC  
William Penrose, Secretary, [wrp0143@comcast.net](mailto:wrp0143@comcast.net)

The colorful presentation was given by Renee Newman, "Diversity of American Gems: Western States", a showcase of many rare and semiprecious gemstones from California, Nevada, and New Mexico. Copies of her books were available for sale afterward.

Wayne Klement was thanked for providing refreshments for the meeting.

Minutes of the January 11, 2025, meeting were approved by the membership.

New members and visitors introduced themselves.

Treasurer Report – Mike McDowell – the club's financial position is strong in spite of some substantial upcoming expenses: a new Titan for the cab lab, saws and blades, and new wheels for the Genies.

Library – no report

Membership – Janet Keisler – 298 plus more members that signed up today, Feb 1.

Field Trips – Donovan Wagner – Donovan is the field trip coordinator – he is reaching out to the Huachuca Club, which has regular field trips. He is planning a Hawley Mine trip for April.

Faceters Guild end of January, Hobnob February 8, TGMS gem show Feb 13 to 16, County Fair in April. Ultratech is sponsoring the Hobnob to the extent of \$700. See Faceters' Guild website.

TGMS Show – Wendy Huber - We are collecting items for display. Items should reach Wendy by February 10. Items should be marked, photographed, and given to John Poole, Chuck Lundstrom, or Wendy Huber.

Show and Tell – Jack McCabe – Wants to institute a period during meetings where members can bring in work or discoveries to show to the membership.

Door prizes were won by Brian Jacobson, Paul Hardenberg, and Anneliese Foley.

The raffle brought in about \$180.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 am.

## OPLC SPEAKERS FORECAST 2025

I would like to thank all of our speakers in 2024 who gave some terrific, diverse presentations that our members have truly enjoyed. They came near and far and we are definitely enriched by their shared knowledge and expertise. And huge thanks to all of our members who come and are great audiences for our speakers.

Here is the latest list for our upcoming speakers:

March 8, 2025, Claire Scragg, **Being a Gem Detective**

April 12, 2025, Douglas Graeme & Richard Graeme IV, **Bisbee Minerals**

May 10, 2025, Jim Turner, **The Mine with the Iron Door**

## DONATIONS

Thanks to those that have made donations in the past to help keep this club running! We welcome donations so if you have lapidary related items, please call Wayne Klement, 520-954-6298 and leave a message to make arrangements to have the donation picked up if you need help or to drop off at the Club.

John Poole - miscellaneous slabbing material.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Andy Andy	Pat Glover	Allan Lindberg
Susan Cambra	Jose Gonzalez	Dianne Mockler
Scott Chapman	Preetesh Hirji	Mike Mockler
Luana Dragoslovich	Rachel Howard	Lee Rummel
Nancy Franz	Nancy Kish	Paul Sanchez

## MARCH 15 TAILGATE SALE

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club—3118 North Dale

**THIRD SATURDAY OF MARCH** from 8am to 12pm

**OPLC members only as sellers!!**

**Items for sale MUST be related to the lapidary or  
metalsmithing arts or OPLC activities!**

**Parking for vendors in North Lot-- FROM 7:30 AM TO 8:00 AM only  
The North parking lot WILL be open to monitors working that day.**

**The South parking lot will be open to members and shoppers.**

**Participants need to bring their own tables.**

**A suggested donation of \$10 per vendor is requested.**

**If any questions call John Poole @ 520-777-5588**



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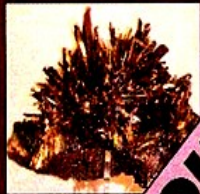
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### **MONEY SAVING DISCOUNTS**

- **Allen's Treasure House** 10% off of finished jewelry (except custom made), decorator items, and novelties (excludes unformed minerals and specimen sets). 5% off of all other merchandise not having its own discount schedule, including unformed minerals and specimen sets. No discounts on services except per applicable schedule if any. **See ad in newsletter.**
- **DAH Rock Shop** - 10% on most items, \$10 minimum purchase.  
520-323-0781 **3401 Dodge Blvd, Tucson. See ad in newsletter.**
- **Kent's Tools** - 10% discount except for net priced merchandise.  
520-461-1350 - **2745 N 1st Avenue, Tucson 85719. See ad in newsletter.**
- **Kino Rocks and Minerals** - NEW LOCATION - 6756 S Nogales Hwy, Tucson, AZ 85756 520-345-7957. 10% Discount for OPLC members. See ad on Page
- **Tucson Mineral & Gem World** - 10% 520-883-0682 Web address:  
www.tucsonmineral.com **2801 South Kinney Road, Tucson**
- **Arizona Lapidary** - Arizona Lapidary & Gem Rough - 5817 E Speedway Blvd. 10% Discount off rough rock 520-399-6641.
- **Silver Lining Gemstones** - 20-35% discount on most items.  
520-203-8430. Mike DeMeritt on his Instagram Store (IG Name: **silverlininggemstones**)
- **Transformational Book Publishing** - 10% discount to members on your first book of 200 pages or less.

#### **Allen's Treasure House**

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## COMMITTEES

### ADVERTISING

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### BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & EQUIPMENT

Wayne Klement (520) 954-6298

Mike Tucker (520) 400-9656

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### CLASSES

Victoria Fila (520) 664-0302

### FIELD TRIPS (COMMITTEE)

Victoria Fila (520) 664-0302

### HISTORIAN

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### JUNIOR EDUCATION

Teresa McCabe 520-490-7850

### RAFFLE/DOORPRIZE

Kim Filips (520) 743-8070

### KITCHEN

General Membership

### LIBRARIAN

Bill Cascio (520) 638-8144

### MEMBERSHIP

Janet Keisler (520) 333-3398

### SECURITY

John Poole (520) 777-5588

### BUSINESS MEETING REFRESHMENTS

Twink Monrad (520) 297-9454

Wayne Klement (520) 954-6298

### SILENT AUCTION

TBD

### NEWSLETTER

Wayne Klement (520) 954-6298

### WEBSITE

Brian Peterson (520) 449-2660

Minutes of Tuesday, February 25, 2025 OPLC Board Meeting  
5:00 pm, W Penrose, [wrp0143@comcast.net](mailto:wrp0143@comcast.net)

Present: Jack McCabe presiding, Mike McDowell, Chuck Lundstrom, Bill Penrose, Mark Marikos, Wayne Klement, David Schulte, Janet Keisler, Dave Richardson, John Poole, Betty Mehlhoff. A quorum was present.

Members who helped out at the Hob Nob were Dave Richardson, Mike Tucker, David Schulte, Chuck Lundstrom, Wayne Klement.

Treasurer's Report – Mike McDowell – The cash position is positive. Exact numbers are not given here, but are available to members on request. Major items: New wheels for the cab lab were purchased and paid for.

Membership – Janet Keisler – 346+ members have renewed or joined so far in 2025. Up to date rosters are now in the labs and monitors are advised to check lab users against the list.

### **Lab Reports**

Silver Lab – John Poole – Someone is needed to run a silver class.

Cab Lab – No report

Saw Room – Betty Mehlhoff - The backlog has been taken care of. A new 55 gallon drum of cutting oil is needed.

Faceting Lab – Dave Richardson – Bearings need replacing on some machines to bring all machines to 100%. We can trade-in our Facetron machines for new ones, but the price is unknown. There is a conflict with our policy of putting everything donated into the Silent Auction before selling it. An exception has to be made to allow trade-ins.

MOTION: Dave Richardson will find out the trade-in value of our old machines in order to determine whether we should make an exception to the Silent Auction First policy, PASSED.

Casting Lab – Chuck Lundstrom – Very busy. A new class starts in two weeks.

Library, Secretary, Field trips, Website – No reports.

Field trips – No report

Gem show – good feedback. Wendy did a good job organizing and with the display case. More tumbled stones are needed. Please ask Mark Gibson to make some more tumbled stones. Also order cutting oil for the saw room and cab lab.

County Fair – No news yet.

*Meeting minutes cont'd on top of next page .....*



.....*Meeting minutes cont'd from prior page.....*

### **New Business –**

Saw Room – Betty Mehlhoff - There is a plumbing issue with the hot water supply in the saw room. Deferred action on sewer drainage in the lab building.

Cabbing classes clarified – They are held first Monday and Tuesday evenings 6-9 pm by Donovan Wagner and Brian Peterson. The \$45 fee includes care of the wheels and the saws and other equipment, as well as cleaning up.

Tailgate sale – John Poole – Saturday, March 15 – He will have two signs made.

Silent Auction Donations – Wayne Klement – Donations policy should be mentioned in the Membership meeting. . Chuck Lundstrom is the new Chair for the Silent Auction activity. Wayne Klement will assist Chuck with picking up donations. Phone messages to the club may go unanswered. Let Chuck know of any donation-related phone messages.

Only Board members should pick up phone messages.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.



### **PICTURES PROVIDED BY DONNA PUGH**

For those of you who didn't get a chance to attend the gem show in the Convention Center to see the OPLC booth, this is what you missed. Wendy again demonstrated her creative talent and put together a very nice display of items made by OPLC members. Thank you Wendy.

*Pictures cont'd next page.....*



....Pictures cont'd.....

This is a close-up of the member display case.....



The case for our display of members' examples of crafted work was down on the main floor. This is the booth that volunteers manned during the gem show that was located on the Mezzanine level.



Chuck Lundstrom doing a faceting demo at the booth.

Overviews of the main gem show on the lower level of the Convention Center. Our display case is in one of the cases in the center of the photo.





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**This is the lab schedule which is current as of 2-1-25. Please CALL the Monitor that is running the lab to make sure that they have space for you.**

### **Cabbing**

**Monday** 8am-12pm Mike Wendler (817) 751-0622  
6pm-9pm Donovan Wagner (520) 869-2050

**Tuesday** 9am-12pm 1st and 3rd Tuesday Dan Lilly (801) 995-9692  
6pm-9pm Brian Peterson (520) 449-2660

**Wednesday** 9am-12pm Mark Davidson (520) 975-6075  
5pm-8pm Keith Haubert (520) 784- 8283

**Thursday** 7am-11am Ken Briggs (520) 780-0640  
1pm-4pm Wendy Huber (206) 669-6002

**Friday** **No Labs currently scheduled.**

**Saturday** **4th Saturday** 9:00am-2pm Ron Bryan (619) 495-7967  
7am-12pm Dennis Stock (602) 421-2707  
2pm-5pm Wendy Huber (206) 669-6002

**Sundays** **9am-12pm Gloria Shenanaquet (520) 396-9715**  
12pm-2PM Paul Fickle (520) 883-6061

### **Silversmithing**

**Monday** 10am-1pm Jane Morris (727) 743-0883

**Tuesday** 9am-12pm John Poole (520) 777-5588 No open shop Aug 13th, 20th, 27th.

**Wednesday** 9am-12pm Bill Cascio (520) 343-9927  
5:30pm-8:30pm Stephanie Mendibles (520) 460-2101

**Thursday** 10am-4pm Sloane Padilla (520) 808-8699 (Text Only)

**Friday** 10am-2pm Giac D'Acquisto (520) 444-4143

**Saturday** 9am-12pm David Schulte (520) 954-8554

**Sunday** 10am-2pm Giac D'Acquisto (520) 444-4143

### **Faceting**

**Monday** 9am-12pm Dave Richardson (520) 245-2172 Class & Open Lab

**Wednesday** 5:30pm-8:30pm David Schulte (520) 954-8554 Open Lab

**Thursday** 4pm-7pm Chuck Lundstrom (520) 241-9262 Class

**Sunday** 12:30pm-3:30pm Dave Richardson (520) 245-2172 Class & Open Lab

### **Casting**

**Monday** **Noon-3pm 1st & 2nd Mondays** Liz Williams (818) 300-5262

**Tuesday** 8am - 11 am Steve Weeks (978)-807-0075

**Wednesday** 4pm-7pm Chuck Lundstrom (520) 241-9262 Classes every other month, beginning every January, open labs between classes; look for sign-up sheets in the meeting hall. Open lab available when NO class is running. Call for open lab availability.

**Thursday** 9am-1pm Mark Draslodovich (520)-906-4657

**Friday** 2pm-5pm 2nd & 4th Fridays Travis Austin (540) 420-3866

**Sunday** 1pm-4pm 1st & 3rd Sundays Travis Austin (540) 420-3866

### **Saw Room**

**Monday** 7am-11am Ray Darragh (480) 652-0648

**Wednesday** 7am-11am Ray Darragh (480) 652-0648

**Sunday** 9am-Noon Betty Mehlhoff (253) 208-7460

**Thursday** 7am-11am Betty Mehlhoff (253) 208-7460

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club,  
Cutting Remarks - March 2025  
3118 N. Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712  
(520) 323-9154

### OPLC MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

An application form can be downloaded from the Club website at: [Old Pueblo Lapidary Club Join US](#)

#### MEMBERSHIP RATES FOR NEW MEMBERS

	Jan - Jun	Jul - Dec
Single	\$35.00	\$20.00
Couple	\$50.00	\$35.00
Juniors	\$15.00	\$10.00

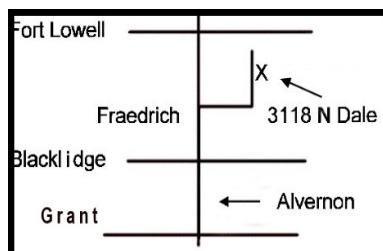
#### MEMBERS RENEWING

\$30.00  
\$45.00  
\$10.00

Note: Renewal fees will apply for members returning to rejoin regardless of the time of year.

Make check out to OPLC and mail to:

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club  
Attn: Membership Chairperson  
3118 N. Dale Avenue  
Tucson, AZ 85712



The Business Meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month except for December. A pre-meeting social hour is at 8:00 a.m., followed by an educational program, and ends with the monthly meeting. Visitors are most welcome.

Our email address is: [opl3118@gmail.com](mailto:opl3118@gmail.com)