

# “CUTTING REMARKS”

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

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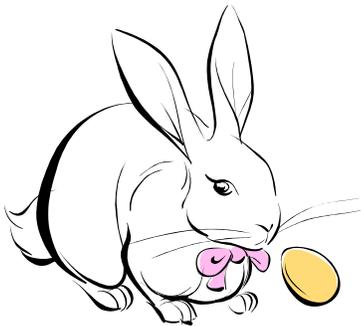
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## Membership Co-Chairpersons

Wayne Klement 954-6298  
Donna Pugh 299-1535

Please join us on April 11th  
for the next monthly  
meeting. Optional social  
hour begins at 8:00 AM  
followed by the educational  
program at 9:00am followed  
by the meeting. Visitors are  
always welcome.



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

## THE PREZ SEZ ..... by Bill Carmody



Welcome to April 2009. It is always good to see another April roll around. Heck, I am getting so old now that I might be able to count all the new Aprils I have left on one finger. So, I better get out and enjoy each one. If anyone reading this knows of a really good place for rock hounding that plentifully yields gorgeous, highly polish-able stones, let's go. My memory is getting so bad that I am sure I won't remember how to get there. Hence, your secret will be safe from disclosure by me. I sound a little morbid, don't I? Actually, like a bumper sticker I read, "I plan to live forever -- so far, so good."

The Pima County Fair is coming up this month. The Fair is like the ad for Sara Lee: "Nobody doesn't like the Fair." The OPLC will have our booth as usual. It's always fun to help man (people) the booth. If you

aren't already signed up to help, call Murray Hiller, 296-4469. Even if you aren't signed up, don't let that stop you if you go to the Fair. Come on by and visit the booth for a while. It is always good to have club members stop by. Also of note, Murray can use a few people to help with the set-up and tear-down activities. Murray will have the parking tickets and entrance passes for the volunteers for distribution at April's general meeting. If anyone can loan us display case items for the show, please contact Murray.

Over the past couple of weeks, our serenity has been perturbed. Melinda Thompson, our revered treasurer, got a message from the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineral societies stating that our Club liability insurance was cancelled. It seems that we too are victims of AIG

incompetence. Our insurance carrier could no longer get re-insurance (risk protection) from AIG and cancelled our policy. After a lot of thrashing around by the officers and directors of the club looking for new coverage, Congress passed a special bail-out package for us. Now each OPLC member gets one billion dollars but the government requires that we fill out copious forms and it will have final say in any major decision in our lives. Just kidding! Actually, RMFMS found a new insurer for us and we are covered again. The plus for us resulting from the research is that we think that we might be able to get coverage for the Club independent of the RMFMS that might be less costly. We will continue to investigate this for next year.

### REVISED NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION COMING

To save on mailing costs, future issues of the newsletter will be distributed electronically (via email) effective with the May edition. Members, businesses and organizations who do not have email addresses will continue to receive their newsletter delivered by the U.S. Post Office. Those being mailed will be sent with first class postage because the mailing volume will be below the minimum amount to be eligible for bulk mail rates. The first class mailing cost will be offset by reduced printing and postage costs saved as a result of the distribution via email. Members with email addresses that still want to receive it by mail will pay an additional \$6.00 per year.

**UPDATE:** John Poole reported that Marion Russell is now home from the hospital and doing well. You may give him a call at 622-5506. (I think they got tired of him chasing the nurses around at the hospital and sent him home ..... Ed.)

*Cutting Remarks*, V2009, Issue 4, April 2009. Published monthly by the Old Pueblo Lapidary Club, 3118 N. Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712. Telephone: (520) 323-9154, a non-profit organization.

## FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES ..... By Jenny Coniglio



The meeting was called to order by vice president, Bob O'Donnell, and a quorum was present.

The January minutes were approved as printed in the Newsletter; there was no meeting for February since it was the time for the Gem and Mineral show.

It was noted that many members were absent to attend the Deming, NM field trip. Bob reported that the Board had discussed this event's impact on our March meeting attendance and that the Board recommends the membership vote to move the March general meeting to the first Saturday of the month instead of the usual second Saturday. The motion was approved.

Bob also noted that our membership list had been shared with a local gem shop and reminded us that this list is only for members' private use.

The TGMS show response was discussed. Our booth was well attended by show visitors, and we had lots of volunteers to work the booth. The TGMS has reminded us that our TGMS Host badges should not be worn while we are serving in our own Club booth.

The Hob Nob meeting was well attended with over 80 people at the Club that night.

**Old Business:** The County Fair will be April 16 – 26. We still need more volunteers to sign up to work in our booth. The first day of the Fair the shift will be Noon – 6:00PM. Other days it will be 10:00AM – 6:00PM. Volunteers can sign up for any day. Murray Hiller will contact everyone about the exact time and day you are needed. The necessary equipment for demonstrations will be provided by the Club.

**Classes and Labs:** It is recommended that interested members contact the specific teachers since the rates vary from \$35 - \$45 or more depending on how many sessions and hours the classes run. Club punch cards can also be used instead of cash. John Poole will be teaching beginning silversmithing and needs 4–5 people to run an evening class 6–9 PM. Jenny Coniglio will offer the beginning beading class for 4 weeks on Saturday beginning in March or April. Frank Beavens offers a beginning lapidary class Thursday or Monday, Noon – 4PM. Thursday evenings will be open lapidary and silversmithing hosted by Ron Davidson.

**New Members:** Jeff Lutson of Tucson is interested in learning about the stones he

collects. Raymond Hutton is interested in silversmithing classes.

**Field Trips:** Rim Tallat-Kelpsa announced that there will be a trip to the Ray Mine trip this next Saturday for those who haven't been there yet. There are 3 openings and if those slots aren't filled, former trip people can attend. Meet at Trader Joe's parking lot on Oracle at McGee at 7:00AM.

April 17 a trip to the Silverbell Mine will be open to all members. There is a \$5.00 fee for drivers of 6 SUVs going in.

Rim is looking for someone to head up a trip to the White Mountains to look for petrified wood.

**Announcements:** Member Marion Russell, 101 years old, has fallen and broken his hip. He is at Health South, room #318 for those who would like to visit him.

Sam Greenleaf and Theresa Liberty donated the free citrus fruit on the back table for members to take home.

There was only one submission for the Belt Buckle Contest so Rim got to select his prize.

The meeting was adjourned for the door prize and raffle.

**A**nd ..... another huge thank you to our friends at the Ray Mine for being yet again the gracious hosts that they are. Everyone that went on the March 21st field trip had a wonderful time, as usual.

## APRIL BIRTH STONE - DIAMOND

**Diamond** is the ultimate gemstone, having few weaknesses and many strengths. It is well known that Diamond is the hardest substance found in nature, but few people realize that Diamond is *four times harder* than the next hardest natural mineral, corundum (sapphire and ruby). But even as hard as it is, it is not impervious. Diamond has four directions of cleavage, meaning that if it receives a sharp blow in one of these directions it will cleave, or split. A skilled diamond setter and/or jeweler will prevent any of these directions from being in a position to be struck while mounted in a jewelry piece.

As a gemstone, Diamond's single flaw (perfect cleavage) is far outdistanced by the sum of its positive qualities. It has a broad color range, high refraction, high dispersion or fire, very low reactivity to chemicals, rarity, and of course, extreme hardness and durability.

Diamond is the April [Birthstone](#), and an alternate [Zodiac stone](#) for the Constellation of Aries.

Diamond is the ultimate gemstone in several ways:

- **Hardness:** Diamond is a perfect "10", simply the hardest substance known by a wide margin. Nothing can scratch a diamond other than another diamond. And a diamond can scratch anything, even a sapphire.
- **Clarity:** Pure diamond is completely colorless and transparent over a larger range of wavelengths (from the ultraviolet into the far infrared) than is any other solid or liquid substance - nothing else even comes close.
- **Thermal Conductivity:** Diamond conducts heat better than anything - five times better than the second best element, Silver! This characteristic is the basis for "diamond tests", as it is simple and cannot be faked.
- **Refraction:** Diamond has a relatively high index of refraction (ability to bend light), which gives it the high luster called adamantine.

**Dispersion:** Diamond has a relatively high optical dispersion which gives diamond the "fire" that makes it so desirable.

Diamonds may be nearly any color in the rainbow plus browns, grays, and white. Shades of yellow are most common, followed by colorless. Blue, black, reddish, and greenish are more valuable (some extremely so).

Diamonds are found in a type of rock called "Kimberlite", which comprises the core of certain volcanoes over especially thick portions of the earth's crust. This hard stone is mined and then crushed between giant steel rollers. The kimberlite is reduced to fine gravel, yet the extremely hard diamonds come out unharmed! Water is added and a grease covered roller sorts the diamonds from the gravel, as the diamonds stick to the grease. Typically, a single carat of diamond is recovered from a ton of rich ore.

Diamonds are found in many areas including South Africa, Russia, and even in Arkansas in the USA. In all cases, diamonds formed deep within the earth's mantle, and were brought to the surface in volcanic eruptions. In many cases, the diamonds weathered out of the kimberlite by natural processes, and were transported downstream by water. Many diamonds are mined in the resulting alluvial deposits in areas such as along the coast of South Africa.

*Source: Amethyst Galleries, Inc.*

## ROCKS THAT RING

*Notes from an article by Paul Martin, Gems & Minerals, Nov. 1956*

Xylophone bars have been cut from agatized palm wood (in Colorado) and from trap rock (Talcott Mountain, CN). In California, chimes have been cut by J. Cooper, a member of the Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society, from limestones found near Lovelock, Nevada, and the Mojave Desert, California.

The slate-like materials give only the note struck and must be played rapidly; the limestones, on the other hand, have a surprising amount of resonance or hum.

There is a blackened outcrop of *clinkstone* in Bronco Canyon, south of Wikieup in the Hualpai Mountains of Arizona. Just follow Hwy 93 for a couple of miles and travel up the canyon a little way to collect the augite-phonolite. Phonolite, of course, is the musical rock from the petrologist's point of view. Phonolite is not a specific mineral, or even rock, but a group of rocks of volcanic origin. They are usually a greenish gray color and consist of orthoclase, nepheline, pyroxene, and occasionally leucite. The phonolites may have been shattered internally into many parallel plates, which may be the reason for their resonance. Phonolite occurs fairly commonly in Great Britain, New Zealand, parts of Europe, South America, and British East Africa. In the United States, it is found at Cripple Creek, CO, Wikieup, AZ, and the Black Hills of South Dakota. The awe-inspiring Devils Tower of Wyoming consists almost entirely of columns of phonolite. As one "expert" put it, "The Devil's Tower is just one - big - gong".

*Source: Golden spike News – January 2008*

## **FIBER OPTIC GEMS: *What Are They???*** by Bill Grimes

Fiber optics were developed as a result of someone studying a piece of the mineral Ulexite. Also known as TV stone, it is a hard, brittle, fibrous stone which when writing is placed underneath, will allow the image to appear on the surface of the stone. This led to the theory that if this type of fibrous material could be manufactured, it could be used in many different ways where image transmission is needed.

Fiber optic cables were at first very slender and flexible, used in surgeries and in house-hold decorations. The manufacturing technology improved and soon manufacturers were spinning out miles of cable for a new application - data transmission lines. These lines can be up to two inches across. The cable consists of thousands of pairs of optic fibers. Each pair carries data for phone, computer, fax, etc. Since the sides of the cable are reflective, there is no need for insulation or shielding around each fiber, as in old phone lines. This translates to more pairs in a smaller space.

For us in the hobby, this created one of the newest gem treasures - fiber optic cabs. In order to make a fiber optic cabochon, the cable scraps are first cut into small lengths. The cable is then either cut into spheres, or it is sectioned parallel to the length of the fiber. Once the slices are made, it is cut much like any other gem. Care must be taken, however, to protect the ends of the cable from splintering, or catching cutting dirt, abrasives, etc. There is an interesting thing about fiber optic gems. If you look at them from a 90 degree angle from the eye of the gem, the gem will be transparent to light, maintaining its properties for light transmission.

*Source: Pineywoods Rooter – August 2008*

REMEMBER, "IF IT CAN'T BE GROWN, IT MUST BE MINED". IN ONE DAY, TO MAINTAIN OUR STANDARD OF LIVING, EVERY DAY.....

\*18 million tons of raw material must be mined, cut or harvested to meet the demands of U.S. citizens for "things and stuff"; about 150 pounds for every man, woman, and child

\*640 acres-one square mile of carpeting is woven. (barite, calcium carbonate)

\*9.7 million square feet of plate and window glass - about 223 acres - are used; enough to cover 200 football fields. (silica sand, trona)

\*2,750 acres of pavement are laid, four times as much surface area as is mined, and enough concrete and asphalt to make a bicycle path 7 feet wide from coast to coast. (sand, gravel, stone chips, limestone)

\*4,000,000 eraser tipped pencils are purchased. That's enough erasers to correct all the mistakes from 1,500 miles of notebook paper- about 129 acres of goofs. (graphite, kaolin, pumice)

\*80 pounds of gold are used to fill 500,000 dental cavities

\*426 bushels of paper clips- 35,000,000 are purchased. Seven million are actually used; 8-9 million are lost and almost 5 million are twisted up by nervous fingers during telephone conversations. (iron, clay, limestone, trona, steel)

\*187,000 tons of cement are mixed, enough to construct a four foot wide sidewalk from coast to coast. (limestone, sand, gravel, stone chips)

\*3.6 million light bulbs are purchased. (tungsten, trona, silica sand, copper, aluminum)

\* 10 tons of colored gravel for aquariums are purchased

\*21 million photographs are snapped, more than 20 acres of wallet-sized photos. (silver, iodine)

\*550,000 pounds of toothpaste, 2.5 million tubes, are used; enough to fill a small jet liner. (calcium carbonate, zeolites, trona, clays, silica)

Source: Unknown

## DONATIONS

- Mimi & Mike Haggerty generously donated some turquoise nuggets & cabs, 3 types of amber, lapis, carnelian, miscellaneous fossils, jade pieces and pieces of abalone.
- Virginia Vivier donated a Pro-form molder for plastic, metal shear, paperbacks, 2 Thumlor Tumblers and 2 Lyman tumblers and a Baldor motor (buffer w/spindles).
- And.... an anonymous donation was received that included a 6" Rascal saw, buffing unit, Highland Park grinding unit, 10" Star Diamond unit, acetylene bottle & torch, 2 tool boxes, six various types of hammers, 3 mandrells, several pairs of pliers, a leather hammer, 3 vises, two dop pots, 4 boxes of agates, Freedom, miscellaneous jewelry and jewelry boxes, mini anvil, miscellaneous slabs and rough copal, malachite, and turquoise, battery powered light, 2 electric engravers, transfer punch set, Opti Visor, and miscellaneous books and templates.

A heartfelt thank you for keeping the Club in your thoughts. It is generous donations like these that help our Club out financially. Many of these items will appear at our annual Silent Auction which is held the first Saturday in November but some of the items will be used by the Club for use by the members in the various labs.

# Rockhounds!

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Ad Expires June 2009

## The Story of Montana Agates

It has always been a mystery how the peculiar little scenes got inside a rock as hard as agate. It is the claim of geologists that the spots were caused by infinitely minute seams or fissures in the softer parts of the rock being filled with metallic oxides when the world was young. These oxides made four different colors that form various combinations of color when blended together, or appear in single colors in each rock. The red color is oxide of iron. The black is oxide of manganese. The green is oxide of copper.

The blue is oxide of nickel. This theory has been elaborated by the help of high powered microscopes which show the tracings of little canals so close the naked eye could not detect it; but the oxides remained, staining the rocks in wonderful designs. The fernlike and branch effects of the trees grass and shrubbery, come from the fact that the tiny canals branched out in various subdivisions forming smaller canals for a common center. In addition to these canals, the rock became flawed through shrink-age while passing through a period of evaporation which, according to scientists, has taken more than three million years to reduce the stone to the hardness of 7 on the Mohs scale. These canals and flaws have been perfectly healed by soft silicate formations of which the stone is a part, and the evaporation has caused the oxides to take on such forms as seen on the window after a frosty night. Technically, Montana agate is known as "dendritic" agate, and the moss spots are called "dendrites".

It is the third hardest stone in the world, and is cut only with a diamond saw. There can never be two pieces alike even though cut from the same stone.

Source: *The Petrified Digest* via *Pineywoods Rooter* – Aug. 2008 via *Rock Chips* October Issue

**SALE STILL GOING ON !!**

**ROCKS & ROCK SLABS FOR SALE**

**Ron Davidson - 9219 E. Kayenta**  
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 much, much more. Call 749-3157 to ar-  
 range for an appointment to preview items  
 desired.

**THOUGHTS TO LIVE BY**

- One thing you can't recycle is wasted time.
- Ideas won't work unless 'You' do.
- Your mind is like a parachute ... it functions only when open.
- The 10 commandments are not multiple choice.

*Rockhound Rambling Volume 55, No. 3 March 2009*

**DONATIONS**

You may contact one of the following individuals if you are interested in making a donation (rocks, equipment, etc.) to the Old Pueblo Lapidary Club. Please call: Bill Carmody at 760-8598 or Dan Harmsen at 721-8452.

**Rate Schedule for Advertisements - - - Ad Sizes & Prices**

1/8 of a page -  
 2" H by 3 1/2" W  
 \$36.00 per year  
 \$18.00 per half year  
 \$3.00 per month

1/4 of a vertical page -  
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- **DAH Rock Shop** - 10% on most items. See ad on page 13 of this newsletter. 520-323-0781
- **Colorwright** - Amount of discount depends on item(s) being purchased. 520-623-3874
- **Jay's of Tucson** - 10% discount. 520-323-1123
- **Jed's Rock Shop** - 20% on all items. 520-882-6044
- **Copper City Rock Shop** - Bring in ad from page 14 of this newsletter and get 10% off on all purchases. 928-425-7885
- **Kent's Tools** - 10% 520-624-8098
- **Tucson Mineral & Gem World** - 10% 520-883-0682

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Laura Tutalo  
Trevor Chilcote  
Scott & Liza Clark  
Kassandra Clark  
Andrew Clark  
Margaret Evans  
Raymond Hutton  
Jeff Letson  
Raymond Pajkos  
Michael & Tamara Westphall



### ADVANCED FACETOR'S CORNER

The April question of the month: Arizona rubies are garnets ..... True or False?

**The answer .....**

Come to the April meeting to hear the answer.



### DON'T FORGET

Please don't forget to bring in **YOUR** aluminum cans to the Club for recycling. Your contribution would be greatly appreciated to help add \$'s to the Club's treasury.

**Thanks !**

### MONTHLY JEWELRY CONTESTS

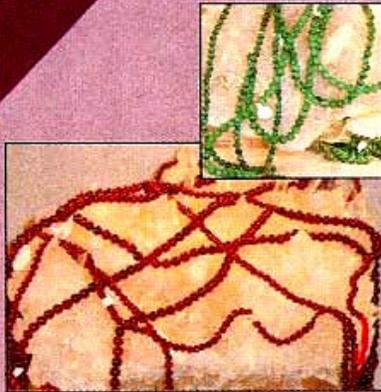
In order for members to better plan for future monthly contests, here is the schedule for each category by month:

January - Bolo Tie	May - Brooch	August - Faceted Stone	November - Bracelet
March - Belt Buckle	June - Cabochon	September - Chain	
<b>April - Necklace</b>	July - Charm	October - Pendent	

The winner of the March Jewelry contest was Rim Tallet-Kelpsa. Congratulations Rim!

# DAH ROCK SHOP

- Crystals
- Fossils
- Minerals
- Meteorites
- Faceted Stones
- Cabochons
- Turquoise
- Tumbled Stones
- Bookends
- Eggs & Spheres



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Ad Expires March 2010

**WEEKLY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE** Phone 323-9154

<p><u>Mondays 1 - 4 PM</u></p> <p>Faceting Guild - Fee charged. Experienced facetors only. Contact Paul Head 296-0331</p> <p>Silversmith Lab - Fee charged. Contact Lou Akerman 290-6968</p> <p><u>Mondays 6 - 9 PM</u></p> <p>Beginning Faceting - Class fee charged. Contact Earl Zoeller 886-3518</p> <p><u>Tuesdays 9 AM – Noon</u></p> <p>Open Cabbing - Fee charged. Contact Ron Davidson 749-3157</p> <p>Silversmithing Lab - Fee charged. Contact Ron Davidson 749-3157</p> <p><u>Tuesdays Rock Sawing</u></p> <p>8 - 10AM Dave Arens 749-2113 10AM - 1PM Jim Baker 886-2126</p> <p><u>Wednesdays 1– 4 PM</u></p> <p>Open Silversmith Lab - fee charged Contact John Poole 777-5588</p>	<p><u>Wednesdays 6 - 9PM</u></p> <p>Beginning Casting - Class fee charged. Contact Chuck Lundstrom 577-6446</p> <p>Open Cabbing - Fee charged. Contact Keith Haubert 888-8719</p> <p><u>Thursdays 10AM - 1PM</u></p> <p>Rock Sawing - Fee Charged Monitor - Jim Baker 886-2126 Please call to confirm Jim's availability</p> <p>Beginning Cabbing 1- 4 PM Class fee charged. Contact Frank Beaven 1-810-919-5545. <b>Note: Sno-Bird Frank will be going back to Michigan April 24 and this lab will be closed for the summer.</b></p> <p><u>Fridays 9 AM - Noon</u></p> <p>Open Cabochon Lab - Fee charged. Contact Dan Harmsen 721-8452</p> <p><u>Saturdays 10am - 3pm</u></p> <p>Silversmithing - Ron Davidson 749-3157 Cabbing - Ron Davidson 749-3157 Rock Sawing - Jim Griffin / Ron Davidson</p>
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**COMMITTEES**

<p><u>ADVERTISING</u></p> <p>Jean Barkley 546-1651</p> <p><u>BUILDINGS, GROUNDS &amp; EQUIPMENT</u></p> <p>Ron Davidson 749-3157</p> <p><u>CLASSES &amp; PROGRAMS</u></p> <p>Bob O'Donnell 886-0384</p> <p><u>CLUB HISTORIAN</u></p> <p>Sylvia Czayo 297-8607</p> <p><u>FIELD TRIPS</u></p> <p>Rim Tallat-Kelpsa 760-8704</p> <p><u>JUNIOR EDUCATION</u></p> <p>Gretchen Arnaiz 747-1511 Sheila Powell 578-1976</p>	<p><u>KITCHEN</u></p> <p>General Membership</p> <p><u>LIBRARIAN</u></p> <p>Susette Flemings 741-2275</p> <p><u>MEMBERSHIP</u></p> <p>Wayne Klement 954-6298 Donna Pugh 299-1535</p> <p><u>SECURITY</u></p> <p>Ron Davidson 749-3157</p> <p><u>SILENT AUCTION</u></p> <p>Dan Harmsen 721-8452</p>
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Old Pueblo Lapidary Club  
 (Cutting Remarks - April 2009)  
 3118 N. Dale  
 Tucson, AZ 85712  
 (520) 323-9154

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Local Address \_\_\_\_\_

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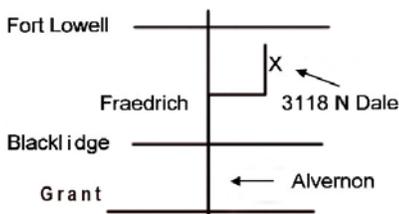
Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Summer Dates: From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership:	<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>Annual Renewals</u>
Single Member	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$11.00	\$9.00	<b>\$15.00</b>
Couple (same address)	\$30.00	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	<b>\$20.00</b>
Junior	\$7.50	\$7.50	\$7.50	\$7.50	<b>\$7.50</b>

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



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