

“CUTTING REMARKS”

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

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Vice President - Jean Barkley 546-1651
Secretary - Pat McMullen 818-2455
Treasurer - Diana Hara 572-0339

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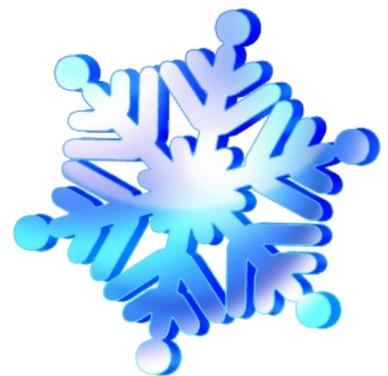
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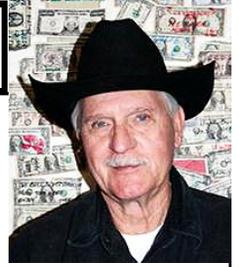
Please join us **December 8th** at 11:00am for the monthly meeting, followed by our annual **Christmas Brunch!** Visitors are always welcome.

NOTE REVISED MEETING START TIME!!!!



Articles or news to be included in the *Cutting Remarks* should be emailed to your Editor, Mike DeMeritt (silverlininggemstones@gmail.com), or feel free to call him at 520-203-8430. Submission deadline is the 20th of each month. Thanks!

THE PREZ SEZ by Pete Peterson



As you know, the OPLC Christmas pot luck will be on December 8th, which is also the day we hold the election of Officers and Board members. Some other upcoming events to remember are the HOB NOB taking place at our facility the last part of January, then our demonstration booth at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show in February; and last, but not least, our booth at the Pima County Fair. All of these events require volunteers, so there will be sign up sheets at the proper times. The first one will be at the December meeting for the booth at the Gem Show. Sign up early to get the day(s) and times that you desire.

Some other opportunities that you may want to think about are the emergency call list of substitute monitors and instructors and the sign-up list for snacks for next year. If you are willing to be a substitute monitor or instructor you should contact an Officer or Board member and your name will be put on the list for further review by the Board. We are compiling this list so that we have people that are pre-approved and have the proper information and access to the Club with the keys necessary for the doors and gates involved. We encourage everyone to review the new FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) list. Remember we now have suggestion boxes in the clubhouse and the Training Center, so let us know what you are thinking.

There is one more project that we are working on and will try to complete before the end of the year. We are going to frame and sheet rock the remaining exposed south wall of the Training Center and install a ceiling. This will enclose and finish the rest of the hallway. We are going to insulate both the wall and the ceiling. This will improve the looks and remove

the clutter of miscellaneous equipment now stored in this area. Any one who wishes to help may contact John Poole or me (Pete) for information. We will need carpenters, sheet rock tapers, painters, and people that can help hang cabinets and for various other tasks. This project should go pretty fast so volunteer soon. We will actually need about 6-8 people who can plan to be at the Club for about 3-4 days of work.

Once again the Silent Auction was a big success. There are quite a few of you who helped with it, but a special thanks goes to Danny Harmsen. Danny works all year sorting, cleaning, organizing, and pricing donations in preparation for the big day. When donations need to be picked up and delivered to the Club, Danny and his crew are there to do it. He arranges the advertisement and he and his helpers set it all up and keep the tables filled as the day progresses. Good job, Danny.

A big thank you to Wayne Klement for stepping up and taking the position of Membership Chairman. Also, thank you to Pat McMullen for filling out the Board term of Ray Brown after he resigned. Thanks again, you guys.

Remember, our December meeting will start at 11:00 a.m., which is later than usual and there will be no program. The potluck will start at about 12:00 or 12:30.

I look forward to seeing all you at the Christmas party and election.

Pete

PRIOR MONTH'S MEETING MINUTES... Pat McMullen, Secretary



At 9:00 a.m. our speaker, Club member Dave Witwer, was introduced. Dave's topic was a field trip to Delta, Utah, with stopovers at Bryce Canyon and Zion Parks. They collected Topaz from Topaz Mountain, and Wonderstone and Geodes in the Dugway area. It was an informative talk and the specimens he brought were very nice.

President Peterson opened the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

New members were introduced: Mark and Patti Davidson, Norm and Shirley Dewey, Terry Paulson and Bert Sanchez. Our guests were Rich and Diane Tacklestietie and Al Bush.

Birthdays included Pete Peterson, Dave Witwer and Abe Lackow. Happy Birthday!

Anniversary: Norm and Shirley Dewey, 41 years and counting.

Old business was to pass the minutes of the last two meetings. A motion was made seconded and approved.

Treasurer Diana Hara asked for a round of applause for Silent Auction Chairman Danny Harmsen.

Diana's FAQ answer sheet is available to anyone wanting a copy. Please see Wayne Klement for your copy. The shop monitors will also have copies available.

Abe Lackow volunteered to lead a tour of the shop area for new members following the meeting.

The Treasurers audit will take place on Tuesday November 13th at 10:00 a.m. and will be conducted by Mark Gibson, Ted Rupp and Shiela Powell.

Pete read the items from the suggestion box. A solution is needed for members to drop off and pickup rocks on days when the cutting room is closed. We will have a locked cabinet for rocks to be cut and for rocks already cut. The monitors will have a key and members can pay them when picking up material. When dropping off material to be cut it will be the member's responsibility to

mark the direction the rock is to be cut with a felt marker. The next suggestion was to have the shop opened on Thursdays. To do this we will have to have a shop monitor. Is someone willing to step up?

Lighting was the last issue, particularly in the area between the shop and the clubhouse. We only need someone who is willing to turn on the lighting that is already there.

A question regarding the Silent Auction was to have 2 tables that rotated at 10 minutes with the rest at the current 15 minutes. The answer was no!

It may be necessary for us to require a class in the proper use of the lab equipment. The monitors can stop harsh use of the equipment and failure to refrain from misuse of the equipment will result in expulsion from the shop.

Pete complimented first timers Diane and Mike Brasswell for their job in handling the money during the Silent Auction and Pat McMullen for managing the kitchen and food at the Silent Auction.

Voting will take place for the new roster of Officers at the next meeting. Remember to bring your ballot or mail it in as soon as possible.

For those who want to work the TGMS Show the sheets will be out soon. Please sign up as quickly as possible.

Norma Lackow has a need for people to sign up to provide refreshments in 2013. Please call her if you can help.

There will not be a program for the December meeting, which will be the Christmas brunch. We will supply plates, utensils, napkins, and the main course of ham and turkey, and the rest is potluck from the members. At this time all beverages are free to the members. If you are planning to attend please let Pat McMullen know what you will be bringing. He can be reached at 818-2455. Thank You!

Cont'd on top of next page

Meeting Minutes cont'd from prior page

Claire O'Donnell asked from the floor to speak about the condition of the lapidary shop and particularly the poor shape of the grinding wheels. She claimed it was a small minority doing the damage and supports the Board's suggestion requiring users to take a class before using the equipment.

Judy Muhlestein owns a business at Craycroft and Rosemont and will be having a gem show on December 12th. There will be space available to interested vendors at a cost of \$30.00 to \$60.00 depending on the size of the space.

There was a question from the floor wanting to know what type of wheels we use in the lapidary shop for grinding. We use both diamond and silicon!

John Poole gave Danny Harmsen credit for a job well done on the Silent Auction.

Norma Lackow wanted to thank the members who provided refreshments for the meeting.

The members gave a big round of appreciation for veterans.

The door prize winner was Norma Lackow.

Pete adjourned the meeting.

OPLC SHIRTS

Don't forget that there are OPLC T-shirts for sale in both long- and short-sleeved versions! Long-sleeved shirts are \$15, and short-sleeved shirts are \$12. What a bargain! And all proceeds benefit the Club. Be sure to show your appreciation and pick one (or two!) up! Thanks, everybody!



John Poole wanted to let the membership know that Ron Davidson's latest temporary address is at the Park Avenue Health and Rehab Center, located at 2001 N. Park Avenue. He is in room 324 and can be reached telephonically at (520) 882-6151, but stop by and visit him instead!

NOVEMBER MEETING PICTURES



Skip, Mary, and Jerry drool over Dave's Utah finds



Dave Witwer shows John Thompson his Dugway geodes and Wonderstone



Proud prospector Dave Witwer with a Dugway geode. I count four chambers!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



**Darrell Bishop
Mark & Patti Davidson
Norman & Shirley Dewey
Tim & Debbie Hughes**

**Tom & Jan Porter
Dwight Schannep
Christy Schannep**

DECEMBER STONE: TURQUOISE

Compiled/Written by Mike DeMeritt, 2012

Are you sure? Turquoise? Let me guess - you've heard otherwise! Unfortunately for those of us with December birthdays (like me), we've seen quite a few stones come and go as "our birthstone" - at various times in my life, turquoise, lapis lazuli, blue topaz, blue zircon, and now Tanzanite (a trade name for blue/purple zoisite) have been "the latest thing". Classically, at least, **turquoise** is December's birthstone. Turquoise, a hydrous copper-aluminum phosphate, crystallizes as a triclinic crystal; however, crystals are exceedingly rare, and it occurs mostly in dense, fine-grained, or cryptocrystalline masses or incrustations. It has a wax-like luster, and is translucent to opaque. It possesses a slightly conchoidal fracture, and is brittle; it's Moh's hardness is between 5.0 and 6.0, and density varies from 2.6 to 2.8. Color is blue, bluish-green, or green, and typically varies dependent on iron to copper ratio, with material becoming more greenish as iron increases. Turquoise is a secondary mineral formed in thin veins and fissures in altered volcanic rocks in arid regions, and is commonly associated with limonite and chalcedony.

Among the most famous occurrences of turquoise are the Iranian in a trachyte at Nishapur in Khorasan, and the American (also in an altered trachyte) in the Los Cerrillos mountains of New Mexico. It is most significantly known from many southwestern U.S. locations, including, but not limited to, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico. Turquoise was among the first materials to be valued as a gemstone, and native American workings date back centuries, if not millennia.

So what happened to October and November?! Why don't members with birthdays in those months get a discussion about their respective gemstones? OK, here goes...

Most birthstones are beautiful, but it is also true that most are only one color. October, never satisfied with "fitting in with the crowd", has **opal** for a birthstone - the gem of *many* colors! Opal, a hydrous silicon dioxide, is amorphous (that is, without form, or crystal lattice). It occurs massively in botryoidal, stalactitic, or encrusted forms. Even though opal is not crystalline in the usual meaning of the word, order of some kind exists: opal consists of a dense packing of spheres, typically 1500 - 3000 angstroms in diameter. In common opal (that without "play-of-color") the size of the spheres varies greatly, whereas the spheres in precious opal (that with "play-of-color") are so uniform in size that they form a regular lattice, in which the light is refracted, producing the stunning visual effect opal is so well-known for. It has a conchoidal fracture, a Moh's hardness of between 5.0 and 6.0, and density measures between 2.0 and 2.2, principally dependent upon water content. It has vitreous luster, though can be dull or wax-like, and is translucent to transparent. It is typically colorless, white, or grey, though rarely it is found in many gorgeous colors. Opal occurs in fissures and cavities in various rocks, where it is deposited by hydrous solutions at relatively low temperatures. It is most commonly derived from sandstone deposits in Australia, though many smaller deposits are found around the world.

Topaz is November's birthstone. Orthorhombic crystals of this aluminum nesosilicate are common, usually short to long prismatic along the "c"-axis (length of the crystal); they are often terminated by bipyramids, other prisms, or pinacoids. The prism faces are often vertically striated. It can also occur as fine- to course- granular masses. Cleavage is perfect on the basal plane, and unheard-of in any other plane. It's Moh's hardness is a significant 8.0, and it is a relatively

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DON'T FORGET

Please don't forget to continue to bring in **YOUR** (or anyone else's for that matter) aluminum cans to the Club for recycling. Your contribution would be greatly appreciated to help add \$'s to the Club's treasury. **Thanks!**

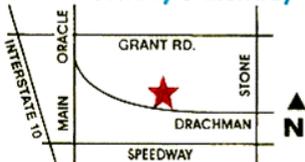
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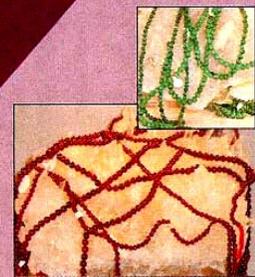
Ad Expires November 2012

MONEY SAVING DISCOUNTS

- **DAH Rock Shop** - 10% on most items. See ad in this issue. 520-323-0781
3401 Dodge Blvd, Tucson
- **Colorwright** - 520-623-3874 Web address: <http://www.color-wright.com/>, **MAILING ADDRESS:**
1520 S Desert Crest Dr., Tucson, AZ 85713. Amount of discount depends on item(s) being purchased.
- **Jay's of Tucson** - 30% discount excluding orange tag items, sterling silver sheet and wire. 520-323-1123 (corner of Speedway & Swan)
4627 E Speedway, Tucson
- **Jed's Rock Shop** - 20% on all items. 520-882-6044 - **6275 N Sandario Rd, Tucson**
- **Copper City Rock Shop** - See ad in this issue. 10% discount with ad. 928-425-7885
566 Ash, Globe, AZ 85501
- **Kent's Tools** - 10% 520-624-8098 - **133 E Grant Road, Tucson**
- **Tucson Mineral & Gem World** - 10% 520-883-0682 Web address: www.tucsonmineral.com
2801 South Kinney Road, Tucson
- **Arizona Lapidary & Gem Rough** - "Dragon's Hoard" Sale December 1st thru 8th 9:30am to 5:30pm **50% OFF** all rough, slabs, minerals, & cabs (dragon is negotiable!) Northwest corner of Pima & Swan **4699 E Pima St.** 520-399-6641. 10% standard discount to OPLC members!

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NOTE FROM DAN HARMSSEN

These are the people who helped make the
Silent Auction a great success:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Ted Rupp | Ginny Peterson |
| Murray Hiller | Donna Pugh |
| Steve Slat | Phil Babcock |
| Mike DeMeritt | Janet Rupp |
| Wayne Klement | Mark Gibson |
| Diana Hara | Don Feyrer |
| Paul Head | Diane Braswell |
| Mervin Peterson | Melinda Thompson |
| Mike Tucker | Maziyar Hamedani |
| Mike Braswell | |

I thank you all for helping me with the
auction.

-Dan Harmsen



DONATIONS



The Estate of Hampton Martin - turquoise, beads, findings, grit, native copper, copper sheet, polished stones, bear, boar and elk parts, diopside crystal, sterling silver scrap, dop wax and sticks, Cratex wheels, silicon carbide wheels, sharpening stone, fetish earrings and necklace.

To donate to OPLC, just see or contact Dan Harmsen. at 721-8452.

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1/2 page - 4 1/2" H by 7 1/4" W
\$96.00 per year
\$8.00 per month

Full page - 9 1/2" H by 7 1/4" W
\$168.00 per year
\$14.00 per month

WEEKLY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE Phone 323-9154

Mondays

1PM - 4PM **Faceting Guild** (Exp. Facetors Only)
Monitor - Paul Head 296-0331

1PM - 4PM **Silversmith Lab**
Monitor - Lou Akerman 290-6968

6PM - 9PM **Beginning Faceting**
Monitor - Earl Zoeller 886-3518

Tuesdays

9AM - Noon **Cabbing**
Monitor - Billy Bob Riley

9AM - Noon **Silversmithing Lab**
Monitor - John Poole 777-5588

10AM - 1PM **Rock Sawing**
Monitor - Jim Baker 886-2126

6PM - 9PM **Silversmithing**
Monitor - Terry Cox **296-4949**

Wednesdays

6PM - 9PM **Beginning Casting**
Monitor - Chuck Lundstrom 577-6446

6PM - 9PM **Cabbing**
Monitor - Keith Haubert 784-8283

6PM - 9PM **Silversmithing Lab**
Monitor - Bill Cascio 638-8144

Thursdays

10AM - 1PM **Rock Sawing**
(BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)
Monitor - Jim Baker 886-2126

Fridays

9AM - 12PM **Cabbing**
Monitor - Danny Harmsen 721-8452

Saturdays

10AM - 3PM **Silversmithing**
Monitor - Terry Cox **296-4949**

10AM - 3PM **Cabbing***
Monitor - Mike DeMeritt 203-8430

Sundays

12PM - 4PM **Cabbing***
Monitor - Mike DeMeritt 203-8430

***(INSTRUCTION PROVIDED AS AVAILABLE)**

COMMITTEES

ADVERTISING

Melinda Thompson 730-3082

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & EQUIPMENT

Dave Arens 749-2413

CLASSES & PROGRAMS

Jean Barkley 546-1651

FIELD TRIPS (COMMITTEE)

Jerry Behn 761-1924

Bob O'Donnell 886-0384 (Chairperson)

Shiela Powell 578-1976

Al Romey 325-7263

HISTORIAN

Twink Monrad 297-9454

JUNIOR EDUCATION

Gretchen Arnaiz 747-1511

Sheila Powell 578-1976

KITCHEN

General Membership

LIBRARIAN

Twink Monrad 297-9454

MEMBERSHIP

Wayne Klement 954-6298

SECURITY

Ron Davidson 749-3157

SILENT AUCTION

Dan Harmsen 721-8452

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club
 (Cutting Remarks - Dec 2012)
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 Tucson, AZ 85712
 (520) 323-9154

OPLC Membership Application - Please Print

Name1 _____ Name 2 _____ Date _____

Local Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip Code _____ Phone number (____) _____

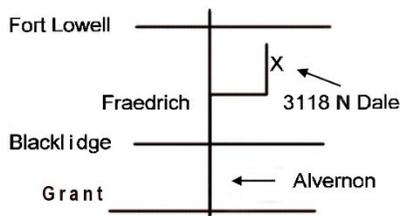
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Summer Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Type of membership:	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Annual Renewals
Single Member	\$25.00	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$20.00
Couple (same address)	\$35.00	\$27.00	\$22.00	\$15.00	\$25.00
Junior	\$12.50	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$10.00

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. 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.