"CUTTING REMARKS"

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

Officers

President - David Schulte 954-8554 Vice President - Jonathan Ziegler Secretary - Twink Monrad 297-9454 Treasurer - Bob Powell 762-1089 Board of Directors 2016 - 2017 Bill Penrose 780-1143 2017 Janelle Cortright 223-1675 2017 - 2018 Skip Barkley 546-1651 2016 - 2017 Tom McDevitt 575-0517 2017 Diane Braswell **574-1942** 2016 John Poole 777-5588 (Advisor)

Please join us <u>January</u> <u>14th</u> at 9:00am for the monthly meeting. There is an optional social hour that begins at 8:00am followed by an educational program at 9:00am, followed by the monthly meeting. Visitors are always welcome.



Wayne Klement 954-6298







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 or (520) 240-5133. Submission deadline is the 20th of each month. Thanks! THE PREZ SEZ by John Poole

By the time you read this, the holidays will be over and we'll be well into 2017. I hope you all had a happy and safe Holiday Season!

At the January 14th meeting the Board will present their recommendations for the 2017 budget. There will be a line item to improve and bring some deficiencies in the club house's electric wiring system up to code.

This is my last Prez Says, after four years it's time to pass the keys to someone else. So, join me January

14th as I swear in our Officers and pass the keys to David Schulte, our new Prez!



I'll see you at 8 am, January 14, 2017 for treats and coffee. At 9 am, Eric Fritz will present a program, Raman Spectroscopy. This will be followed by our business meeting. Remember, 2017 dues are due! Wear your OPLC badge and get a free raffle ticket with a purchase.

John

Coming Attractions:

January 14, 2017, Eric Fritz- Raman Spectroscopy March 11, 2017, Brian Cook, Paraiba Tourmaline & Rutilated Quartz from Brazil

Front Cover Pictures: Spectacular crystal group of orange Spessartite Garnet, January's Birthstone; Most people aren't even aware that Rhodonite occasionally forms beautiful crystals!

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PRIOR MONTH'S MEETING MINUTES... Twink Monrad, Secretary

OPLC MONTHLY MEETING

December 10, 2016

The meeting was brought to order at 11:00 AM by President John Poole.

The minutes of the November meeting as published in Cutting Remarks were approved.

Three new members/guests were introduced.

Membership: 2017 dues are due on January 1st.

Treasurer's report: A saw blade was purchased for the new 24" saw. The report will be filed for audit.

Outgoing President John Poole thanked members for jobs well done during the year:

Mike DeMeritt for his great newsletters often containing interesting articles by Mike.

Kim Filips for arranging for the Christmas centerpieces, this year she used herbs instead of poinsettias.

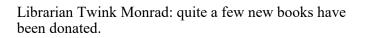
Tom McDevitt for heading up the Silent Auction. He had lots of help and over \$7000 was raised.

Pete Peterson for his assistance during the year. Pete is now a Lifetime Member of OPLC.

Ron and Carolyn Graichen for their education outreach.

Norma Lackow for being the volunteer coordinator for meeting refreshments. NOTE: Norma needs volunteers for 2017. Please call her at 742-7561. Up to \$40 will be reimbursed.

Helen Serras-Herman for her wonderful and interesting programs. The speakers invited by Helen travel from near and far. Helen promises more great programs for 2017.



Giac D'Acquisto and Terry Cox are in charge of selecting pieces for the OPLC display at the TGMS Show. Giac asked that any interested member contact him. Call him at 207-6219.

All of the monitors were thanked for keeping our shops open seven days a week.

Field trips: Janelle Cortright mentioned several outings for 2017 such as SE Patagonia for red jasper, the Deming rock show in Feb., Portal AZ and possibly a trip to Utah. These will be announced in the newsletters. Skip Barkley may plan a trip to 50 Mile Hill for banded agate and quartz. Steve Maliner-Colvin is taking a group to hunt for peridot on the San Carlos reservation in December.

The trip to China which has been in previous newsletters is still happening.

Election of officers for 2017: Bill Penrose was in charge of nominations. A motion was made to elect the slate by acclamation. The motion was seconded and carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM followed by our Holiday Lunch. John thanked Norma Lackow and her crew for arranging everything.

Twink Monrad, Secretary





DUES RENEWAL FOR 2017

Notice: This is the last newsletter for those of you who have not yet renewed your dues for 2017. If you show up for a lab, be prepared to pay your dues. You will be turned away until your dues payment is up to date. You have to be a

paid member in order to be covered by the Club insurance and use the equipment. A membership form is attached for your convenience.

Thank you, Wayne Klement, Membership Chairperson

CALL for SUBMITTALS

OPLC is planning a display at the 2017 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show. The display is intended to showcase the wide range of activities at OPLC.

Space is limited, so a committee has been established to review and select examples of work produced by OPLC members pertaining to cabbing & lapidary, silversmithing (including silver casting) and/or faceting. Work of all levels of skill will be considered for inclusion.

Members can submit one image each of up to five examples of their work. Each image submitted should have the member's name, a brief description of the item and contact information.

Images may be submitted via any of the following methods:

- 🗆 e-mail to: montacquisto@gmail.com; subject: 2017 TGMS Display
- mail or hand delivery to: OPLC, 3118 N. Dale Ave., Tucson, AZ, 85712, ; attn:2017 TGMS Display

Images of items submitted for consideration are to be received no later than 22 January 2017. Images received after 22 January 2017 cannot be included in the review and selection process.

Notification of selections will be sent by 29 January 2017.

Items selected for display must be received no later than 5 February 2016.

Questions? Call or e-mail Giac d'Acquisto: 520.444.4143; montacquisto@gmail.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Hirsch

Stauffer

Stauffer

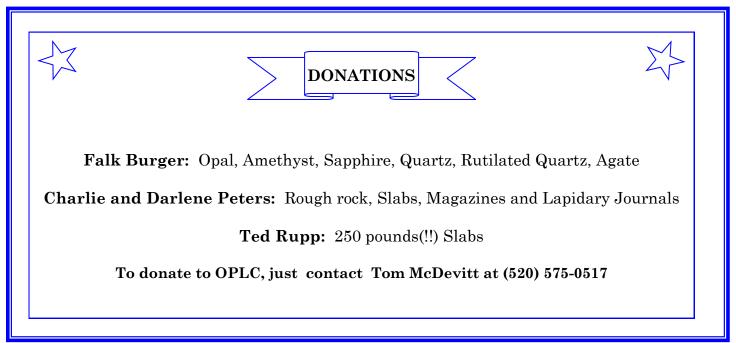
Ruddick

Bright



Andrew	Kent	Jytte
Bob	Royer	Kent
Elaine	Royer	Linda
Mary	Wolf	Rex
Peter	Valentne	Roger
Randall	Hirsch	





2016 OPLC Speakers - A Big Thank You!

I would like to give a big thank you to all our 2016 OPLC speakers! They came from near and far, and gave us some fabulous presentations, spanning the many interests of our hobby. I truly appreciate their coming and sharing their knowledge with all of us.

Here is a quick look back in 2016:

Wolfgang Vaatz, jewelry artist (January), Jim Turner, historian (March), Helen Serras-Herman, gem artist (April), Mike Conway, geologist (May), Jerry Kastner, lapidary equipment (June), Chelsea Ellworth-Jones, cameos (July), Chris Osterman, geologist (August), Jonathan Ziegler, photographer (September), Raymond Mason, appraiser (October), and Pat McMahan, agate collector (November).

I also want to give a huge thank you to a couple of people that helped the programs go smooth all year. Jonathan Ziegler, our "program tech guy", who is there early and sets up the projector and screen for the speakers, Jerry Glazman who introduced our May speaker Mike Conway, and Kim Filips who introduced our November speaker Pat McMahan, and our president and treasurer who take care of the speaker's honorariums.

We are also very excited for 2017. Here is a brief glance at the first 3 presentations:

Eric Fritz, from Gem-A, will bring his Raman Spectrometer (January 14, 2017)

Brian Cook, gem artist, will talk on Paraiba Tourmalines and Rutilated Quartz from Brazil (March 11, 2017)

Dwight Thibodeaux, Rio Rico historian, will talk on "Prehistoric Rio Rico"

And more.....

Above all, I would like to thank all of you who come to the meetings and enjoy these great speakers.

Looking forward to seeing you all in 2017,

Helen Serras-Herman, OPLC Program chair

January 2017 OPLC Speaker Eric Fritz: Spectroscopy....From Handheld to High Tech



We are in for a very special treat for our January 14, 2017 OPLC monthly meeting. Our very own member, Eric Fritz, will be giving a very unique presentation. He will be talking about "Spectroscopy....From Handheld to High Tech". He will compare the use of a handheld spectroscope to the latest Raman instrumentation for gemology. He will give a live demonstration on rough as well as fashioned gem materials. We will all leave with a better understanding of what works and what doesn't. Theory and practice will be demonstrated. He will bring his Raman spectrometer and we'll be doing some testing right at the meeting.

Eric Fritz, FGA, DGA, who in 2015 gave us an excellent presentation on Emeralds from North Carolina, is a graduate gemologist. He is the North America Manager for the Gemological Association of Great Britain (Gem-A), the oldest gemological education provider in the world. Eric has a degree in Zoology from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. He moved from Hickory, North Carolina to Tucson in 2014, and has made Tucson his home. His zoology degree led him to a passion for pearls and other organic gem materials, which are Eric's specialty. He has a huge shell collection, "obsessive" as he calls it, which now resides beside the minerals and gemstones collection.

We are truly very fortunate to have Eric Fritz give this special presentation. This is a very rare opportunity, so please do not miss this meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you all in the New Year 2017! Helen Serras-Herman, OPLC Program chair

JANUARY'S GEMSTONE: GARNET



Faceted Malaya Garnet from Umba Valley, Tanzania.

January has the distinction of owning not a single gem species, but rather a group of inter-related nesosilicates called *Garnets*. Garnets, widespread minerals that are particularly abundant in metamorphic rocks, are easily recognizable, since they are generally found as well-developed crystals with very characteristic crystal forms. Garnets form as 12-sided dodecahedrons, and occasionally as trapezohedrons, 24-sided crystals that can also be called icositetrahedrons. They can also be found as massives in fine- to course-granular. Moh's hardness is approximately 7.0, and density varies from 3.5 - 4.3. It has a vitreous, or occasionally resinous, luster, and is transparent to translucent. Garnets possess no cleavage planes, and have a conchoidal fracture. The general chemical formula for Garnet is

A3B2(SiO4)3, in which A includes relatively large divalent ions

such as Magnesium (Mg2+), Iron (Fe2+), Manganese (Mn2+), or Calcium (Ca2+); and *B* relatively small trivalent ions such as Aluminum (Al3+), Iron (Fe3+), or Chromium (Ch3+), along with a host of others. *A* and *B* refer to positions in the crystal structure in which *A* is surrounded by eight O atoms at the corners of a polyhedron resembling a distorted cube, and *B* is surrounded by six O atoms in octahedral positions. Si is in isolated terahedra and is normally not replaced by other elements. The group includes the following end-members: *Pyrope*, Mg3Al2(SiO4)3; *Almandine*, Fe3Al2(SiO4)3; *Spessartine*, Mn3Al2(SiO4)3; *Grossular*,

Ca3Al2(SiO4)3; Andradite, Ca3Fe2(SiO4)3; Uvarovite, Ca3Cr2(SiO4)3; and Schorlomite, Ca3(Ti-,Fe-)2[(Si-,Fe-)O4]3. Garnets are divided into two species, *Pyralspite* (pyrope, almandine, and spessartine), and *Ugran-dite* (uvarovite, grossular, and andradite). Considerable solid solution exists within each series, but the miscibility between the two series is very limited (in non-gemologist-speak, this means that many garnets will be

combinations of either pyrope, almandine, and spessartite; or uvarovite, grossular, and andradite; and very few will be combinations that jump across the two distinct species). Pyrope occurs in ultrabasic rocks such as peridotites and the serpentinites derived from them; it is also found in high-grade metamorphic rocks rich in Mg. Almandine is common in metamorphic rocks such as gneisses and schists and also in sediments. Spessartine is found in granite pegmatites and in metamorphic Mn-rich rocks. Grossular and Andradite are typically found in contact-metamorphosed or regionally metamorphosed impure limestones, commonly in association with other skarn minerals and sulphides. Schorlomite is found in heavy-alkaline rocks. Uvarovite is uncommon and only occurs in Cr-bearing serpentinites.

Garnets are found the world over, and important deposits include Four Corners, Arizona; Umba River, Tanzania; Teita Hills on the border of



Facet-quality garnet rough from several areas in Tanzania, Africa.

Tanzania and Kenya; the Ural Mountains of Russia; and the Stikine River in Alaska. There are far too many others to list here! Unlike quartz, a gem variety known for stones of lesser value, garnets run the gamut, from lowly "Rose Rhodolite" (a gem-almandine garnet), to Demantoid and "Tsavorite" (gem andradite and grossularite varieties). As a person within the industry for many years, I believe the time is coming where Tsavorite garnet will replace emerald as the "King of Green Gemstones" (this is easy to understand - the garnet has a higher refractive index, is more typically found "gem-clean", and doesn't possess emerald's "fussy" nature as a stone that can be brittle and difficult to work with...) With it's lack of cleavage and decent hardness, garnets cut and polish very easily for the lapidary of any skill level. The only bad news here for those of you experiencing trouble with garnets is that you shouldn't be! I always recommend garnets to those I teach faceting to, and the broad range of costs makes the less-expensive varieties very affordable for amateurs. So, the next time you reach for a piece of facet rough at the gem show booth, try a garnet! You'll be happy you did!

Compiled & Written by Mike DeMeritt, 2012

Arizona China Travel & Tours Announcement

Tours to Hubei and Hunan Provinces (China) for April and May 2017

10 Days/9 Nights Hubei Tour (April 14-23, 2017: \$2,485 Per Person, Land Only)



Turquoise Mine, Yun County Hubei, China Photo Courtesy of Lichun He This tour will take you to the **Turquoise producing region of Hubei**, including **Zhushan** (Bamboo Mountain). **Yunxian** (Yun County). You will visit local towns, markets, and shops. In addition, you will visit **Wudang Mountain** (stay two nights on the mountain), the "Forbidden City in the Sky", an UNESCO World Heritage site, birth place of Taichi, and Taoist holy mountain.

http://www.arizonachinatravel.com/wudang-mountain.html

You will also visit **Daye Mine, Huangshi ("Yellowstone") National Mining Park**, and **Tonglushan Ancient Copper Mine Ruins**, a copper mining and smeltering site dating back 3,000 years.

10 Days/9 Nights Hunan Tour (May 16-25, 2017: \$2,385 Per Person, Land Only)



The special May 2017 tour will take you to **Hunan Gem & Mineral Show**, and to **Phoenix Ancient Town** ("Fenghuang"), a historical town in Western Hunan with a high concentration of ethnic Miao and Tujia Minorities.

The Intangible Cultural Heritage of Miao is **silversmithing**. Miao women are known for their exquisite silver ornaments, which are hand-made by male silversmith in family workshops. You will visit one of the workshops.

7 Days/6 Nights "Venice of the East" Tour (April 7-13, 2017: \$2,350 Per Person, Land Only)



This is a foodie tour that starts in Shanghai, but focuses on **Suzhou**, a 2,500 year old town known for its spectacular classical gardens and crisscrossing canals (all UNESCO World Heritage Sites).

A day excursion will also take you to **Hangzhou**, known for its scenic West Lake and the enchanting Buddhist Temple (UNESCO World Heritage Site). This tour has nothing to do with gems and minerals.

For Questions and/or Information, Please Contact:

Wei Chen @ Arizona China Travel & Tours Phone: (602) 908-7306 Email: info@ArizonaChinaTravel.com Website: <u>www.ArizonaChinaTravel.com</u>

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Ad Expires June 2017



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Beta Diamond Products would like to thank Old Pueblo Labidary Club members for choosing our diamond consumables for their polishing and faceting needs. Beta Diamond Products has been in business since 1986 supplying the faceting community with



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Ad Expires May 2016



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Ad Expires June 2015

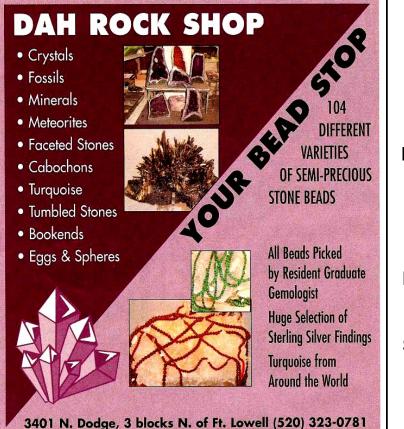
MONEY SAVING DISCOUNTS

- DAH Rock Shop 10% on most items, \$10 minimum purchase. 520-323-0781
 3401 Dodge Blvd, Tucson
- <u>Colorwright</u> 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
- <u>Copper City Rock Shop</u> See ad in this issue. 10% discount with ad. 928-425-7885 566 Ash, Globe, AZ 85501
- Kent's Tools 10% discount. 520-624-8098 133 E Grant Road, Tucson
- <u>Tucson Mineral & Gem World</u> 10% 520-883-0682 Web address: www.tucsonmineral.com 2801 South Kinney Road, Tucson
- <u>Arizona Lapidary</u> Arizona Lapidary & Gem Rough 10% Discount off rough rock 520-399-6641 7320 E Broadway Blvd, Tucson
- <u>Silver Lining Gemstones</u> 20-35% discount on most items. 520-203-8430, or see Mike DeMeritt at any of his labs. Includes Instagram Store (IG Name **silverlininggemstones**)
- <u>Starr Gems</u> 10% Discount on select merchandise, and 3-ounce price break for all silver purchases. See ad in this issue. **220 W Drachman, Tucson**

DON'T FORGET

Please don't forget to continue to bring in <u>YOUR</u> (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!**

Rate Schedule for Advertisements Ad Sizes & Prices - - -1/8 of a page -1/4 of a vertical page -1/4 of horizontal page · 4 1/2" H by 3 1/2" W 2" H by 3 1/2" W 2" H by 7 1/4" W \$48.00 per year \$36.00 per year \$48.00 per year \$24.00 per half year \$18.00 per half year \$24.00 per half year \$3.00 per month \$4.00 per month \$4.00 per month 1/2 page - 4 1/2" H by 7 1/4" W Full page - 9 1/2" H by 7 1/4" W \$168.00 per year \$96.00 per year \$14.00 per month \$8.00 per month



LAPIDARY EQUIPMENT -**STERLING SILVER JEWELRY -BOOKS - SLABS - ROUGH STONES - BEADING SUPPLIES -**SILVERSMITH TOOLS

HOURS: (TUES - SAT 9:30 - 5:30 (CLOSED SUN & MON)

OPLC MEMBERS RECEIVE 10% OFF ON ALL MERCHANDISE EXCEPT SPECIALS. \$10 MINIMUM PURCHASE. STERLING SILVER WIRES AND SHEET RECEIVE THE NEXT PRICE BREAK.

Ad Expires Sept 2015

COMMITTEES

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Mike DeMeritt 203-8430 BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & EQUIPMENT Pete Petersen 886-9021

PROGRAMS

Helen Serras-Herman 761-9907

CLASSES

Gloria Jean Dana 369-7225 FIELD TRIPS (COMMITTEE) Wolfgang Mueller 896-3197

Janelle Cortwright 761-1924 **HISTORIAN**

Bill Cascio 638-8144 JUNIOR EDUCATION

Ron Graichen 529-2661

KITCHEN

General Membership

LIBRARIAN

Twink Monrad 297-9454

MEMBERSHIP

Wayne Klement 954-6298 SECURITY

John Poole 777-5588

SILENT AUCTION

Tom McDevitt 575-0517

BUSINESS MEETING REFRESHMENTS

Norma Lackow 742-7561

WEEKLY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE Phone 323-9154

<u>Mondays</u>

9AM - 12PM Cabbing Monitor - Gloria Jean Dana 1PM - 4PM Silversmith Lab Monitor - Terry Cox 296-4949 5PM - 9PM Cabbing Monitor - Joseph Blackcoyote 891-6822 6PM - 9PM Beginning Faceting Monitor - Earl Zoeller 886-3518 **Tuesdays** 9AM - 1PM Cabbing* Monitor - Mike DeMeritt 240-5133 9AM - Noon Silversmithing Lab Monitor - John Poole 777-5588 9AM - Noon Rock Sawing Monitor - Stacy Brown 334-5930 Noon - 3PM Casting Open Lab Monitor - Ron Brooks 520-378-2592 1PM - 4PM Cabbing Monitor - Jerry Glazman 860-689-

<u>Wednesdays</u>

3432

- 6PM 9PM Beginning Casting Monitor - Chuck Lundstrom 241-9262
 6PM - 9PM Cabbing Monitor - Keith Haubert 784-8283
 6PM - 9PM Silversmithing Lab
- Monitor Bill Penrose 780-1143

<u>Thursdays</u>

9AM - 12PM Cabbing
Monitor - Bob Powell 403-8980
1PM - 4PM Silversmithing
Monitor - Giac D'Aquisto 207-6219
6PM - 9PM Silversmithing
Monitor - Bill Cascio 638-8144

<u>Fridays</u>

9AM - 12PM Cabbing*
Monitor - David Schulte 954-8554
1PM - 4PM Silversmithing
Monitor - Terry Cox 296-4949

<u>Saturdays</u>

9AM - 2PM **Silversmithing** Monitor - Terry Cox 296-4949

9:30AM - 2:30PM **Cabbing*** Monitor - Dennis Murphy 490-9188

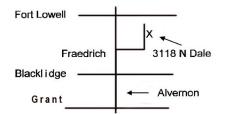
<u>Sundays</u>

10AM - 3PM Cabbing
Monitor - Dennis Murphy 490-9188
10AM - 3PM Silversmithing Lab
Monitor - Giac D'Aquisto 207-6219

* INSTRUCTION AS AVAILABLE

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club (Cutting Remarks - January 2017) 3118 N. Dale Tucson, AZ 85712 (520) 323-9154

OPLC Membership Application - Please Print							
Name1	Name 2		Date				
Local Address							
City	State Zip Code Phone number ())				
Email address	Summer Dates: From To		To				
Summer Address							
City		State	Zip Code				
Type of membership: Single Member Couple (same address) Junior		\$27.00		\$15.00	Annual Renewals \$20.00 \$25.00 \$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.