

# “CUTTING REMARKS”

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

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Please join us **May 10th** 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.



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

## THE PREZ SEZ ..... by John Poole

Hi Folks! By the time you read this, the Pima County Fair will be over. I had a great time talking to the kids - some sure take their time picking the prettiest tumbled rock! And plenty of adults showed a real interest. Hopefully we will realize some new members for our efforts. Charlie Reese was there with his sphere machine, that's a real attention-getter. And if the rest of us Fair volunteers are as enthusiastic as Robert Robuck, our membership will surely grow! The two display cases were filled with the best cross-section of lapidary art by our members as I've ever seen. Thanks to Terry Cox, Abe Lackow, Billy Bob Riley, Paul Fickle, Jean & Skip Barkley, Dennis Murphy, Charlie Reese, and Murray Hiller.

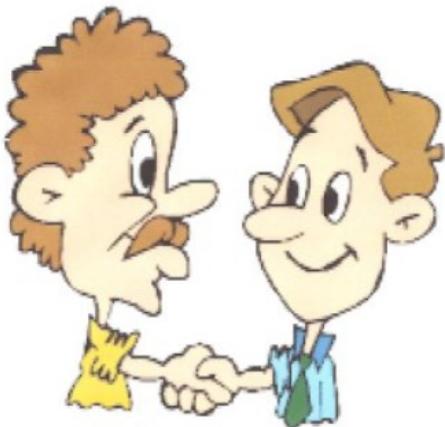
I want to thank all of the many volunteers who gave the club their time to man the booth, transport all of our

equipment, do the set-up and take-down. It made for a very successful club event!

Speaking of volunteers, at our April meeting the raffle ticket sellers had a record day - \$199.00! Thanks go out to Kim Filips, Marla Pesqueira, Gale Thomssen, and Ruby Munson. Our new T-shirts and hats are going like hotcakes. Mark Gibson and Skip Barkley were very busy at the April meeting selling close to \$500.00 worth. A big thank-you to Jean Barkley for putting that project together.

It is warming up but remember that our workshops are air-conditioned. I'll see you on May 10, 2014 for the meeting - and don't forget your OPLC name badge. Wear it and get a free raffle ticket with a purchase.

-John



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jodie Brosseit	Andrew Larson	Dawn Neumann
Ursula Conway	Sukritta Larson	Bruce Neumann
Maddie Conway	Nadia Larson	Bonnie Pryor
Giac D'Acquisto	Tim McClain	Paul Pryor
Jim Dixon	Pat McClain	Jack Shawnee
Scout Dixon	Arend Meijer	Sylvia Stein

**Front Cover Pictures:** An incredible example of May's birthstone, **Emerald** crystals from Columbia. This gorgeous **Malachite** slab from the Congo in Africa is full of orbs and ready for cutting!

Cutting Remarks, Volume 2014, Issue 5, May 2014. Published monthly by the Old Pueblo Lapidary Club, 3118 N. Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712. Telephone: (520) 323-9154, a non-profit organization.

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

### OPLC MEETING APRIL 12, 2014

The meeting was brought to order by President John Poole. The minutes of the March meeting were approved as they appeared in Cutting Remarks.

John thanked OPLC member Jerry Glazman, who gave a wonderful presentation on behind the scenes at Kartchner Caverns.

Seven new members/visitors were present and introduced.

Refreshments: John thanked Jim and Betsy Preston and Norm and Shirley Dewey for bringing the refreshments. Norma Lackow refreshments scheduled for May and June but needs volunteers after that. Please Call Norma at 742-7561. The club will pay up to \$30 for expenses.

Treasurer's report: Mark Gibson reported that our club computer purchase was completed, as well as our roof repair and the order for OPLC t-shirts and hats. We are doing well as we are 27% into our budget at mid-April. Renewal dues are coming in slowly and shop passes and classes are bringing in income. The report will be filed for audit.

Pima County Fair: John Poole noted that OPLC signs a contract with TGMS during the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show and also with Pima County during the Fair

stating that no commercial products will be sold at the OPLC booths.



At our last Board Meeting a motion was passed that the Chairpersons of the booths will make this clear to all of the club members who volunteer. Bob Powell handed out passes to the members present who will be volunteering during the Fair, which runs April 17th through the 27th.

John again thanked all members who showed up for the Spring Clean Up day where parking lots were raked, trash was removed, coolers were prepared and trees were trimmed.

Field trips: Wolfgang Mueller reported that his trip to Mission Mine was a success even though the day was quite warm. He gave a demonstration on geo pick safety and stressed that a geo pick should NEVER be used as a chisel as pieces of metal can fly off and injure someone.

Janelle Cortwright talked about the upcoming trip over Easter weekend to Show Low area for petrified wood. She has a few spaces left. The group will stay in Taylor.

Mike DeMeritt has a sign up sheet in the kitchen for the trip on May 15th to the San Carlos Apache reservation to collect

peridot. There is a \$10 group charge and \$30 for each member going on the trip. The Club will pay the \$10.

Mike DeMeritt was thanked for producing the monthly newsletters.

Mike DeMeritt's Friday labs: May 9th will be his LAST DAY until September or October.

Membership: We have approx. 340 members. John encouraged all to renew. We have two sheets of members who have not yet done so.

Dave Arens has turned 80 and therefore is eligible for free lifetime membership. John thanked him for all of the years of helping with repairs and aluminum cans and other things. Ruby Munson said that she is also eligible. Wayne Klement asked anyone who turns 80 and has at least 5 years of membership in the club to let him know.

John asked that we continue to bring aluminum beverage cans to the club to earn money.

Silent Auction: Danny Harmsen will do the auction again this November and this will be his last year. Two people will be chosen to run the auctions after this year and anyone who is interested in volunteering for this should see John Poole or any Board member.

May program: Jean Barkley said that our speaker will be Dr. Spencer Titley, U of A Professor of Geosciences Emeritus. One of

his interesting projects in geology was to work with astronauts in the sixties at Meteor Crater in preparation for the lunar landing.

Board Meetings: All Board meetings are open to all members who can be put on the agenda or just be there to observe.

John thanked Charlie Reese for building parts for one of the large saws.

Election of officers and board members: Anyone interested in running for any office should contact Dennis Murphy or Mike DeMeritt.

Pete Peterson has been appointed Building, Grounds and Equipment Chairperson.

Jerry Glazman is donating his honorarium for speaking to the Kartchner Caverns fund to build a playground for kids near the ramadas.

A member had a question as to whether there could be a faceting class on the weekends, this will be considered.

John Poole offered to give tours of the training center after the meeting.

Door prize was won by Kathy Kennedy.

There being no further business, we adjourned at 11 AM, followed by the raffle drawings.

Twink Monrad, Secretary

## **DON'T MISS!!!! MAY MEETING PROGRAM**

### **HOW COLOR OF MOUNTAINS AND TYPES OF PLANTS CAN INDICATE MINERAL DEPOSITS**

***University of Arizona Professor Emeritus, Dr. Spencer Titley***

***Professor of Economic Geology***

***Pioneer in Porphyry Copper Deposits***

Dr. Spencer R. Titley is internationally renowned for his work on the origin of porphyry copper deposits. His career includes work as an exploration and mining geologist in the mineral industry and as a professor of geosciences. In 2009 he retired from the University of Arizona after 50 years of teaching and service to the University of Arizona's Department of Geosciences. During his tenure, he was the major advisor for 135 master and doctoral students. He is still teaching part time at the University.

In the language of geologists, the "Copper Province" of the American Southwest, centered on Arizona, has few counterparts in the world, and none in North America. These deposits are called "[Porphyry Copper Deposits](#)" because they appear in a type of rock called "porphyries." More than a century of mining and discovery in this region, and a century of geological study, have yet to provide a conclusive answer about the reasons for this unusual concentration of the red metal. Dr. Titley has spent his career trying to answer the geologic mystery of Arizona's copper deposits. Dr Titley has concentrated on those aspects of regional geology, geochemistry and isotope studies that lead to an enhanced understanding of the time and place of metal concentrations.

Dr. Titley's findings have enlightened and aided both industrial and academic geologists. He has said that his work always had a focus on how to adapt scientific discoveries to practical purposes, such as the search for ore. He wants to put the science we learn to practical purpose for society and the real world. Porphyry copper deposits have been the most economically important type of copper deposit for the last 100 years. In the United States, two-thirds of the nation's copper comes from porphyry copper deposits within 300 miles of Tucson, Ariz.

In 1964, Dr. Titley was one of the UA scientists who trained Apollo astronauts-to-be about the geology of the moon and gave them field experience with moon-like geological features at Meteor Crater in northern Arizona and in other locations.

*His numerous honors and awards include: The Medal of Merit from the American Mining Hall of Fame, the Penrose Gold Medal from the Society of Economic Geologists, the D.C. Jackling Award from the Society of Mining Metallurgy and Exploration, the Medal for Distinguished Achievement in Mineral Engineering from the Colorado*



## OPLC FIELD TRIP

### PERIDOT MESA, PERIDOT, ARIZONA

Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Depart 6:30 am from Sunny Side Up Café, Catalina, AZ  
15800 N. Oracle Road, Tucson, AZ 85739 (520) 818-1083

**LEAD: Mike DeMeritt, (520) 203-8430 home, (520) 841-0786 cel**  
**Email: silverlininggemstones@gmail.com**

We will all meet at SSU café prior to 6:30 am departure (SSU café is posted on Google Maps if you don't know where it is, address above). We will attempt to carpool as many folks as possible from the café (we pay Reservation fees by the carload...) The trip is about an hour and a half from Catalina to Apache Gold Casino in San Carlos, where we will meet Steven Joey and be escorted to pay our Reservation fees and then to the mine. We should be at the mine by 8:00 or 8:30 am. We will finish up and leave basically when everyone's had enough of the heat.

IT WILL BE HOT! You are encouraged to bring the following: LOTS OF WATER, sunscreen, hats, long-sleeved shirts, gloves, boots, buckets, rock hammers/chisels, shovels, rakes, brooms, sifting screens, folding chairs, umbrellas, and don't forget your cameras! Hard hats are NOT required (it is an open pit mine), but you are welcome to bring/wear them. Shade is available. Mr. Joey will have peridot pendants, earrings, rough, and tumbled rough available for sale, and all members are allowed to bring home 7 pounds of material that they collect for free. Only OPLC members are allowed on this trip, and the cost is \$30 cash per person (the \$10/carload Res. Fee will be paid by OPLC). Please pay your \$30 (IN CASH) to Mike DeMeritt by the business meeting on May 10<sup>th</sup> to secure your place (after the 10<sup>th</sup> I will be allowing the alternates to step up and pay...)

## OPLC FIELD TRIP PHOTOS

### Mission Mine and Snowflake Petrified Wood & Sandstone Trips



Wayne Klement reports of the Mission Mine trip: "Our 'dig' site at the mine was at the base of a huge tailings pile. A few people found some nice wulfinitite specimens. There were some pretty good size boulders that some of us broke apart with a sledge which yielded some nice color."

Al Romey, John Thompson, and Pete Peterson unearthing a large boulder of petrified wood (or is it sandstone?) while on the Snowflake field trip.



Snowflake rock ready for transport through a cooperative effort.  
Tim Hughes, John Thompson, Ron Graichen, Pete Peterson, Al  
Romey, Tom McDevitt, Jerry Behn



Folks on the Mission Mine trip were each allowed to collect one 5-gallon bucket!

## MAY GEMSTONE: EMERALD



6.84 Carat Fine Gem Emerald  
From the Author's Collection

May's birthstone is the fabulous variety of Beryl known as **Emerald**. Beryl forms commonly as simple, prismatic, hexagonal crystals, whose prism faces are often vertically striated or grooved. It has indistinct cleavage on the basal {0001} plane, and conchoidal or uneven fracture. Hardness varies from 7.5 - 8.0 on the Moh's Scale, with relatively-fragile emerald usually coming in closer to 7.5. It has a density of roughly 2.7. It has a vitreous luster, is transparent to translucent, and large crystals can vary in transparency. This is especially true with emerald, whose formation happens in such violently magmatic conditions as to virtually assure a variety of inclusions (emeralds are known for their *Jardin*, a French word for "Garden"- the mass of inclusions leaves the impression of a painted garden landscape...)

As I explained for Aquamarine (another form of beryl) in the March issue, the crystal structure of beryl is characterized by sixfold rings of  $[SiO_4]$  tetrahedra that lie on top of each other and thus form endless channels along the *c*-axis of the crystal. The rings are linked by  $[BeO_4]$  tetrahedra and  $[AlO_6]$  octahedral. In addition to the main elements of beryl, minor amounts of Li, Na, or other alkali metals can be present (like  $H_2O$  or  $CO_2$ , they can be accommodated in the channels.) Color is caused by chromophores in the form of transition elements, and typically, Chromium (as  $Cr^{3+}$ ) is responsible for the deep-green in emerald. Vanadium may also act as a chromophore, either by itself, or in concert with the Chromium. Though Iron may color beryl green, it is not considered an emerald unless the chromophore is Chromium or Vanadium (Iron-green beryls are simply called "Green Beryl" or even labeled as aquamarines...) With aquamarines, the crystals are often long; by contrast, pink beryl (Morganite) typically assumes short, stubby, tabular crystals. Emerald falls in between these ranges, with mostly shorter, smaller crystals that are very rarely tabular.



Emerald Rough from Muzo, Columbia

Most beryl is found in granitic pegmatites, but emerald is an exception - it most frequently occurs in mica-schists, or veins and cavities in bituminous limestone (like the famous emerald mines of Muzo, Columbia.)

Emerald is found in few places, and important deposits include Muzo and Chivor, Columbia; Bahia and Goias, Brazil; Pakistan; Afghanistan; and Hiddenite, North Carolina. There are African deposits as well, though many of these really only produce green beryl (colored by  $Fe^{2+}$ ). Fine, gem-quality emeralds are exceptionally rare, and rank among the most expensive and sought-after of all gemstones. Those with May birthdays couldn't be prouder!

-Written/Compiled by Mike DeMeritt, 2013

## MAY CUTTING TIPS

**Bulk Facet Rough Removal that helps satisfy yield.** Any facet machine can double as a saw. Locate a large steel washer or bushing to use as a spacer. Install a standard girdling lap as a base, then your spacer, followed by a standard diamond sawblade horizontally. Using careful adjustments to the mast, cut your preform to just over-size, saving the larger removed pieces. With some machines, you can increase the number of spacers if necessary to allow larger material removal. With some careful pre-planning, you can cut near-perfect performs, as well as save the bulk of any waste (you can always cut some matching stones from these...) Best of all, your grinding laps will last much longer than before!

**Off on a tangent...** Ever had a design plan for a given material, but want the design in something different? If you don't work out your facet angles with a tangent ratio formula, there's a good chance you are losing some of the potential brilliance of your stone. If you arbitrarily add to or subtract from given angles (as many do...), the optical properties of the cut can be altered dramatically (and typically not in a good way!) The best way to avoid this is to change the angles *tangentially* in relation to the new material's critical angle, which keeps the integrity of the design's plan view. All you need is a scientific calculator with a Tangent button ("TAN"), an Inverse button (sometimes called "SHIFT" or "INV"), and a method by which to store a number in memory (for my example I'll use the typical "M+" and "MR" functions on most calculators...) *Example: You have a cool design for CZ that you'd like to cut an amethyst out of. The pavilion main angle for CZ is 40.6 degrees; for quartz it is 43.2 degrees. Here's how it works:*

1.) Enter the new (quartz) angle: **43.2**

2.) Press **TAN (0.9391)**

3.) Press **/ (divide)**

4.) Enter the original (CZ) angle: **40.6**

5.) Press **TAN (0.8571)**

6.) Press **= (1.0956)** This number will remain in Memory Recall (after step 7) unless you negate it. It is necessary for further calculations beginning with Step 8.

7.) Press **M+ (1.0956 goes into memory...)**

8.) Enter any known original (CZ) angle pavilion break, i.e. **41.7**

9.) Press **TAN (0.89097)**

10.) Press **x (multiply)**

11.) Press **MR (1.0956)**

12.) Press **= (0.97616)**

13.) Press **INVERT or SHIFT**

14.) Press **TAN (44.3)** This number is your new corresponding pavilion break angle for quartz.

Use this method for any other corresponding angles that need to be figured, including all crown angles. The angles will be precisely correct for the plan form with the new critical angle. Your stones will sparkle in agreement! *Provided by Mike DeMeritt, 2012*

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*"Stupid is as stupid does..."*

- Forrest Gump

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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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Wayne Klement 954-6298

### SECURITY

John Poole 777-5588

### SILENT AUCTION

Dan Harmsen 721-8452

## WEEKLY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE Phone 323-9154

### Mondays

#### 9AM - 12PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Gloria Jean Dana

#### 1PM - 4PM **Faceting Guild** (Exp. Facetors Only)

Monitor - Billy Bob Riley 225-9060

#### 1PM - 4PM **Silversmith Lab**

Monitor - Lou Akerman 290-6968

#### 6PM - 9PM **Beginning Faceting**

Monitor - Earl Zoeller 886-3518

### Tuesdays

#### 9AM - Noon **Cabbing\***

Monitor - Mike DeMeritt 203-8430

#### 9AM - Noon **Silversmithing Lab**

Monitor - John Poole 777-5588

#### 1PM - 4PM **Beginning Faceting**

Monitor - Mike DeMeritt 203-8430

### Wednesdays

#### 6PM - 9PM **Beginning Casting**

Monitor - Chuck Lundstrom 241-9262

#### 6PM - 9PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Keith Haubert 784-8283

#### 6PM - 9PM **Silversmithing Lab**

Monitor - Bill Penrose 544-7517

#### 6 PM - 9PM **Faceting**

Monitor - Billy Bob Riley 225-9060

### Thursdays

#### 9AM - 12PM **Rock Sawing**

Monitor - Pete Peterson 886-9021

### Fridays

#### 9AM - 12PM **Cabbing\***

Monitor - Mike DeMeritt 203-8430

### Saturdays

#### 8AM - 12PM **Rock Sawing**

Monitor - Jim Griffin

#### 10AM - 3PM **Silversmithing**

Monitor - Terry Cox 296-4949

#### 10AM - 3PM **Cabbing\***

Monitor - Ron Davidson 400-2125

**\*INSTRUCTION PROVIDED AS AVAILABLE,  
MAY REQUIRE DOUBLE-PUNCHED HOURS**



No donations this month.

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

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club  
(Cutting Remarks - May 2014)  
3118 N. Dale  
Tucson, AZ 85712  
(520) 323-9154

OPLC Membership Application - Please Print

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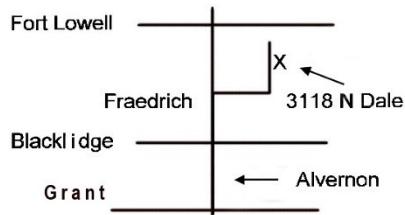
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Type of membership:	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Annual Renewals
Single Member	\$25.00	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$20.00
Couple (same address)	\$35.00	\$27.00	\$22.00	\$15.00	\$25.00
Junior	\$12.50	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$10.00

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



The Business Meetings are held on the 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.