

“CUTTING REMARKS”

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

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Please join us **October 8th** 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), or feel free to call him at 520-203-8430 or (520) 240-5133. Submission deadline is the 20th of each month. Thanks!



Prez says – October 2016

Hi Folks! Our membership is over 480 and growing. I visited the cabbing lab the other day and two new members were just finishing up their very first cab. They were both thrilled with the results, as they should have been. I expect to see even greater work from them in the future.

Raymond Mason will be presenting our program; appraising our gems and jewelry, at our October 8th meeting.

Our tailgate sale will begin AFTER the meeting is adjourned. The Board has a half-page announce-

ment in the newsletter; it should answer any questions you may have.

As usual our social hour will start at 8 am, but the north parking lot will only be open to vendors for the tailgate sale and monitors who are working that day.

After 8:30 am the lot will be open to all. Our program will start at 9 am, followed by our business meeting.

If you are not a vendor, bring money, there should be some neat and unusual stuff for sale!

See you the 8th, John

Coming Attractions:

October 8, 2016, Raymond Mason- Appraising our gems and jewelry

November 12, 2016, Pat McMahan- Agates

December 10, 2016, Holiday Party

January 14, 2017, Eric Fritz- Raman Spectroscopy

March 11, 2017, Brian Cook, Paraiba Tourmaline & Rutilated Quartz from Brazil

Front Cover Pictures: One-of-a-kind Black **Opal** from Lightning Ridge, Australia, is one of October's birthstones; the other is **Tourmaline**, like this incredible multi-color specimen from Africa.

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



OPLC MONTHLY MEETING September 10, 2016

to have our current electrical system evaluated whatever we decide to do.

President John Poole brought the meeting to order at 10:10 AM. He thanked OPLC member Jonathan Ziegler for a very informative program on different methods of photographing minerals and jewelry.

Our annual Silent Auction is Saturday November 5th. Our regular November meeting will be held the following Saturday. Victoria Fila offered to head up the kitchen crew to provide food to sell, thank you Victoria!

Refreshments: John thanked Dodi Jorgensen for bringing the snacks. Norma Lackow said we are good through 2016 but need volunteers for bringing snacks starting January 2017. Please call her to volunteer at 742-7561. The Club will reimburse up to \$40 for expenses.

Field trips: The Barkleys are taking a group of rockhounds to the Round Mountain Day Ranch area on October 15th. Janelle Cortright is thinking of a petrified wood outing near Taylor, AZ the following weekend which would be an overnight trip. She will have a sign up sheet at the October meeting.

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

We had a speaker encouraging some of us to think about the China trip which was described in our September Cutting Remarks. It sounds very interesting with lots of great places to visit.

Membership: over 478 members as of today. Four new members/guests were introduced.

Saw Room News: Two of the large saws are needing repairs. The Board decided to buy a new saw during the Gem Show from Highland Park Company. The Board also authorized a price increase for sawing rocks: the new rate will be .20 per square inch for rocks cut and where applicable a \$2.50 blocking charge will be added. We are now using environmentally safe oil.

John gave a treasury report and it will be filed for audit.

New monitors are needed for Saturday in the cab room. Call John Poole if interested in volunteering.

The Ron Davidson Memorial Scholarship which has been discussed seems to be very complicated to actually put into place. Bill Penrose and the Board are thinking of a Ron Davidson "Skill Development Fund" which would be used to hire experts in different fields of lapidary and be offered as talks or workshops to our members who would be interested and this is still under discussion. Bill Cascio has started a photo album of the Ron Davidson Memorial Pot Luck and would like anyone else who has photos of that event to please get photos to him for the book.

The door prize was won by Victoria Miller. The meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.

New air conditioning units versus new evaporative coolers is still being discussed by the Board. We need

Twink Monrad, Secretary



15TH ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION OLD PUEBLO LAPIDARY CLUB

3118 N. Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712

Free parking - Free admission



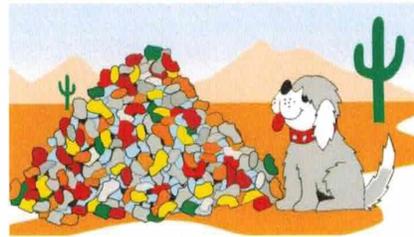
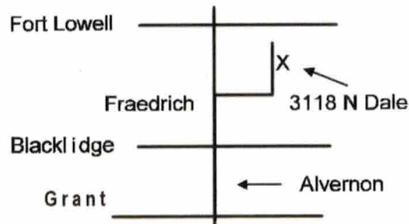
DATE: Saturday, November 5, 2016

HOURS: 9:00am—2:00pm

Don't miss it! This is a once a year chance to select all your material and lapidary needs from a myriad of mineral specimens, petrified wood, turquoise, faceting rough, cutting materials, slabs, polished stones, findings & equipment including: rock saws, cab grinder, faceters, flat lap, kiln and casting equip. There will also be a "kids only table".

Choose from lots of items. One of nine tables will be randomly called and replenished every 15 minutes. Place your bids and try to find time for tasty snacks on sale in the club's kitchen as you wait to see if you are the lucky owner of some great new lapidary finds.

For additional information, please contact Tom McDevitt 520-575-0517



OCTOBER TAILGATE SALE

- Tailgate Sale DOES NOT START UNTIL AFTER THE MEETING!
- OPLC MEMBERS ONLY!
- Bring your own tables!
- Items for sale MUST be related to lapidary or metalsmithing arts, or OPLC activities.
- Parking for participants is in North Lot - FROM 8AM UNTIL 8:30AM ONLY!
- The North Lot WILL be open to Monitors working THAT DAY!
- After 8:30AM, the North Parking Lot will then be open to the General membership.
- Again, the Tailgate Sale WILL NOT START until after the October meeting is over!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Elizabeth Whitethorn
Sharon Braskamp
Rebekah Alcanter
Amy Finkel
Margarette Harris
Kenneth Jover

Victoria Miller
Denise Jean
Mike McDowell
Suzanne Matchett
Lili Duvall

A photograph of the storefront for Arizona Lapidary & Gem Rough. The building has a sign that reads "MINERALS - JEWELRY LAPIDARY ROUGH". In front of the building is a large agave plant and a purple sign that says "ARIZONA LAPIDARY GEM ROUGH".

Arizona Lapidary & Gem Rough
7320 E Broadway, Tucson AZ 85710
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Monika Williams: Rough, Slabs, Mookaite, Chalcedony, Miscellaneous

To donate to OPLC, just see or contact Tom McDevitt at 575-0517 or Mike DeMeritt at 240-5133

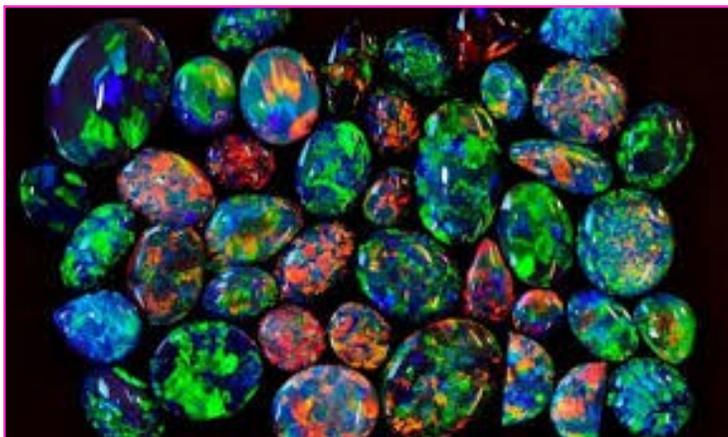
OCTOBER BIRTHSTONE: OPAL

Those who celebrate a birthday in October have the honor of a birthstone unlike most others: the colorful variety of silicon dioxide known as *Opal*. Opal, chemical formula $\text{SiO}_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$, is basically the amorphous form of chalcedony. It has a Moh's Hardness between 5 - 6, a conchoidal fracture, and a density that varies between 2.0 - 2.2, depending on water content. The water content in opal varies; it is typically 3 - 9 wt% (percent by weight) but can be up to 20 wt%. Although opal isn't crystalline in the usual sense, order of some kind exists: opal consists of a dense packing of spheres, typically 1500 - 3000 angstrom in diameter. In common opal without play-of-color, the size of the spheres varies greatly, whereas the spheres in precious opals (those with play-of-color) are so uniform in size that they form a regular lattice, in which the light is refracted. In some opals the spheres are completely



Outstanding carved white opal from Coober Pedy, Australia

amorphous, whereas in other opals the spheres are partially crystalline and consist of disordered layers of tridymite and cristobalite. Opal occurs in fissures and cavities in various rocks, where it is deposited by hydrous solutions at relatively low temperatures. It occurs as siliceous sinter or 'geyserite' at hot springs and geysers and constitutes the majority of diatomites, which are fine-grained chalk-like deposits formed by the accumulation of shells from diatoms.



Exceptional assortment of fine black opals from Lightning Ridge, Australia

Opal refers to opal (with or without play-of-color) from Quetaro, Mexico, that principally comes in bright orange and red body colors. *Black Opal* refers to opal with a black body color, whereas *Crystal Opal* or *Hyalite* refers to opal with no body color, and is clear (except those pieces with heavy play-of-color!) *Boulder Opal* refers to ironstone concretions sporting opal found in Queensland, Australia. Most precious opals are from the various sandstone deposits in Australia, but they are also found in Ethiopia, Brazil, Mexico, and even the United States.

Fire



Fire Opal cabochons from Quetaro, Mexico

-Written/Compiled by Mike DeMeritt, October 2013

**TRIP TO ROUND MOUNTAIN BLM
ROCKHOUND AREA , ARIZONA**

Saturday, October 15, a rockhound trip is planned to Round Mountain Rockhound Area near Duncan, Arizona for chalcedony. To date, we already have the maximum number of 14 vehicles on the sign up list. An email will be sent to each member on the list to confirm that they are going. If someone does not confirm, we will let the membership know at the October 8 meeting about availability.

(FYI: This trip takes at least 3 hours from Tucson to the rockhound area, and requires a high clearance vehicle.)

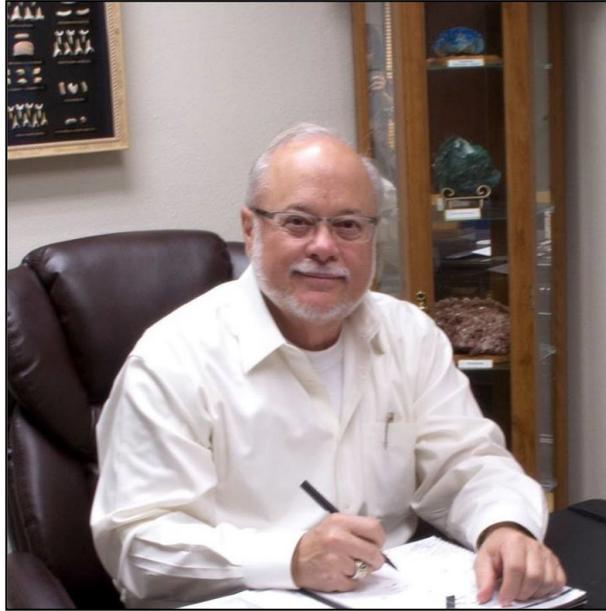
Skip and Jean Barkley
Trip Coordinators

**TRIP FOR PETRIFIED WOOD
TO SNOWFLAKE, ARIZONA**

October 29-30, 2016 to Snowflake, AZ for petrified wood. Signup sheet and further info at October meeting. Overnight required in Snowflake, either motel or RV park.

Janelle Cortright
Trip Coordinator

October 2016 OPLC Speaker



We are in for a very special treat for our October 8, 2016 OPLC monthly meeting. Raymond H. Mason, Jr., a well known and respected gemologist (GG) and appraiser (ICGA) with many qualifications and accreditations, is coming down from Scottsdale to talk to us about evaluating and appraising our gemstones and jewelry, what research and tests he does for his appraisals, and what it all entails to become an appraiser.

Raymond is a graduate gemologist (GIA), and has completed the Advanced Personal Property Appraisers Course (APPA). He is a senior member of the National Association of Jewelry Appraisers (NAJA), and has also received the Independent Certified Gemologist Appraiser (ICGA) Certificate from the American Gem Society. His lab, the Arizona Gemological Laboratory, located in Scottsdale, is certified by the American Gem Society and the Accredited Gemologist Association (AGA). He has been serving on the board of the Accredited Gemologist Association for the past 6 years. He is also a rockhound and gem dealer, and he promised to bring with him some fire agate from Deer Creek.

Another do not miss program,

Looking forward to seeing you all, Helen Serras-Herman, OPLC Program chair

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!



*The smith also sitteth by the anvil,
And fighteth with the heat of the furnace,
And noise of the hammer and the anvil is ever in his ears,
And his eyes look still upon the pattern
Of the thing that he maketh.
He setteth his mind to finish his work,
And waiteth to polish it perfectly.*

- Ecclesiasticus

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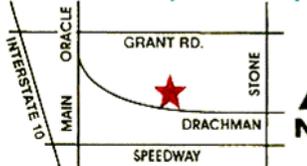
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3401 Dodge Blvd, Tucson
- **Colorwright** - 520-623-3874 Web address: <http://www.color-wright.com/>, **MAILING ADDRESS:**
1520 S Desert Crest Dr., Tucson, AZ 85713. Amount of discount depends on item(s) being purchased.
- **Jay's of Tucson** - 30% 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% discount. 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** - Arizona Lapidary & Gem Rough - 10% Discount *Excluding Finished Jewelry
520-399-6641 - 7320 E Broadway Blvd, Tucson
- **Silver Lining Gemstones** - 20-35% discount on most items. 520-203-8430, or see Mike DeMeritt at any of his labs. Includes Instagram Store (IG Name **silverlininggemstones**)
- **Starr Gems** - 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 **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

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John Poole 777-5588

SILENT AUCTION

Tom McDevitt 575-0517

Mike DeMeritt 240-5133

BUSINESS MEETING REFRESHMENTS

Norma Lackow 742-7561

WEEKLY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE Phone 323-9154

Mondays

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 - 1PM **Beginning/OpenLab Faceting***

Monitor - Mike DeMeritt 240-5133

9AM - Noon **Silversmithing Lab**

Monitor - John Poole 777-5588

9AM - Noon **Rock Sawing**

Monitor - Tim Rose

Noon - 3PM **Casting Open Lab**

Monitor - Ron Brooks 520-378-2592

1PM - 4PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Jerry Glazman 860-689-3432

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 780-1143

Thursdays

9AM - 12PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Bob Powell 403-8980

9AM - 12PM **Rock Sawing**

Monitor - Pete Peterson 886-9021

1PM - 4PM **Silversmithing**

Monitor - Giac D'Aquisto 207-6219

6PM - 9PM **Silversmithing**

Monitor - Bill Cascio 638-8144

Fridays

9AM - 12PM **Cabbing***

Monitor - David Schulte 954-8554

1PM - 4PM **Silversmithing**

Monitor - Terry Cox 296-4949

Saturdays

10AM - 3PM **Silversmithing**

Monitor - Terry Cox 296-4949

9:30AM - 2:30PM **Cabbing***

Monitor - Jeff Hanson

Sundays

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 - October 2016)
 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 (____) _____

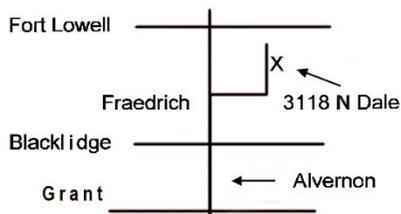
Email address _____ Summer Dates: From _____ To _____

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	\$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.