

# “CUTTING REMARKS”

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

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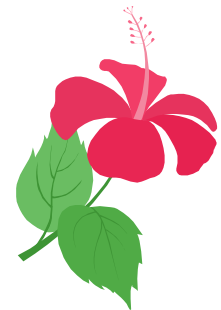
## Board of Directors

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2012 - 2013 Ray Brown 390-5667  
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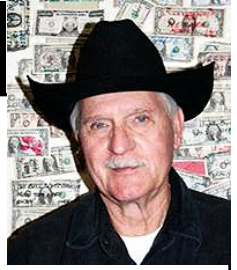
Frank Schleicher (512) 913-4241

Please join us **April 14th** 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 Pete Peterson



I am pleased to announce that after the plea for help to find volunteers for Membership Chairman and Editor of the Cutting Remarks we have filled these positions. Frank Schleicher, a new member, has accepted the membership duties for the club, and Mike Demeritt., who is also one of our monitors, has taken on the responsibility of Editor of our monthly official publication Cutting Remarks.

Thank you, gentlemen, for taking on these duties. And a big THANK YOU to Wayne Klement for all his years of service. He did a great job and I know you all appreciated it as much as I did.

It is now County Fair time and we will have a booth at the Old Pueblo Hall at the Pima County Fairgrounds. Murray Hiller is in charge of this event and says he still has room for a few more volunteers to man our booth. The fair runs from April 19th to the 29<sup>th</sup>, so stop by and see some of the beautiful work our members do. This is the last show for a while, so let's have a good turnout.

At our meeting in April be sure and check our sign-up sheets for field trips, shop classes, the treat list, and all the pertinent information on the kitchen counter.

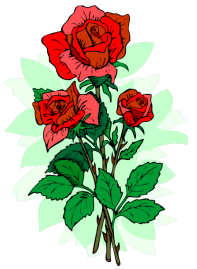
Summer months are fast approaching and we should start thinking about spring cleanup. This involves painting, weed-spraying, cooler start-up, general cleaning around the facility, tree-trimming, some carpentry and electrical work, and bulb replacement. We need just a good house cleaning to keep the place looking in tip-top shape. I will try to have a start date in time for the April meeting.

That's all for now. Keep bringing those aluminum cans in to the club. Good luck finding that perfect rock and be safe.

Pete

### MEMBER NEWS

- ⇒ Ron Davidson is recovering from his leg amputation at the VA Hospital, and his spirits are high. It sounds like he will be there for some time, so anyone who gets a chance should call him, or stop by and visit him at the VAH. As of this writing, he is in Building 60, Room 137. The VA's phone number is (520) 792-1450, and his room extension is 5236 (again, as of this writing - as everybody knows, hospitals are notorious for moving people around...)
- ⇒ Members are reminded to take advantage of all of our club's opportunities for learning. Take a class in something you're not familiar with, browse our extensive library for new learning materials, or head out on one of our many field trips with like-minded rockhounds! There are plenty of "open labs" - time where members can use our extensive facilities to metalsmith, cut a cab, facet a stone, cast a ring or pendant blank, or get that latest find slabbed into usable lapidary material. It's your club, everybody, so take advantage of these outstanding facilities, teachers, and materials. Knowledge is empowering!



*Cutting Remarks*, Volume 2012, Issue 4, April 2012. 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... Pat McMullen, Secretary



Jean Barkley, our new Vice President, introduced Jeremy Moss, Chief of Recourse Management, Archaeologist, who specializes in hunter-gatherer studies and lithic analysis at Tumacacori as our speaker for March. His subject was the procurement and use of obsidian at Chaco Canyon, and the four corners area by Pueblo style dwellers. Jeremy's talk centered on the location and the many uses of obsidian by early Pueblo Indians. It was very interesting and well received.

At the end of the presentation, President Pete called for a short break prior to the general meeting.

Pete called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. A quorum, 65 people, were present.

Two board members, Ted Rupp and Murray Hiller, who were not present at the last meeting, were sworn in by President Pete for the 2012 board.

The January 2012 minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer Diana Hara gave the financial report noting that we had taken in \$5396.96 from all sources and after expenses a net of \$2359.55 was made to date.

On the matter of t-shirts, Diana has found several vendors who have prices better suited to our needs. She will narrow down the best price and quality for the next meeting

Skip Barkley, who takes care of filing our governmental paperwork, informed us that all papers were filed and our assessment would be in the \$100.00 range.

Under old business, Norma Lackow asked for volunteers to sign up for refreshments. We are still short of covering the rest of the year.

Show and tell items by Charles Reece, faceted stones, and Abe Lackow, Silver and Turquoise stones, were on display. These were very nice items.

Wayne Klement's untimely fall and broken arm has left us without a "Cutting Remarks" editor and membership chairman. Wayne has decided to give up the reins after 8 years so we need one or two members to step up and take over these two important jobs for the club. Wayne will assist any members in getting started on the jobs. Jean Barkley appealed to all members to consider taking on one of these important duties. (At the time of

this writing both jobs, thankfully, have been filled.)

New members were Paul Gonzales, Kathleen Norfolk, Johnny Sayers, Barbara Allen and Mike Tucker. Visitors attending were Carol Taylor and Dennis Walthale. Welcome to you all.

Ray Brown will conduct tours of the facilities after the meeting for all the new people.

Pete brought up the need for better housekeeping by instructors/monitors, in particular, the signing in and out of people using the facilities. Be sure to check gas, lights and see that the facilities are properly secured before leaving.

Bill Cascio will have a new silversmithing class starting March 5<sup>th</sup>.

Mike Demerit will have an open cabbng lab on Sundays.

Danny Harmson's Friday March 9<sup>th</sup> class will be cancelled as he will be attending the Deming Rock Roundup.

Billy Bob Riley will be taking over Ron Davidson's class on Tuesday mornings.

Ray Brown will hold a class in glass working if enough interest is shown. Contact Ray if you are interested.

Helen Herman will have an open shop at her home on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. You will need instructions to get there so please call 761-9907

The Rocky Mountain Federation will have the annual meeting in Albuquerque, N.M. Anyone interested in attending can have the club proxy vote and other goodies attached with attending.

John Thompson needs to meet with the board in regards to the Presidents Plaque before finishing them.

Our annual spring cleanup will take place next month. We need to replace the kitchen door, paint the hall in the shop areas, put in a large receptacle for aluminum cans, check out the coolers, spray and pickup the grounds and clean the kitchen area.

(MINUTES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...)

(MINUTES CONTINUED)

John Poole gave a report on Ron Davidson. He is still on pain meds after they amputated his left leg; however, it seems his spirits are up. He is located in the Veterans' Hospital, 2-S room 25. Ron's birthday was March 12<sup>th</sup>. If you get a chance call and give him your best wishes.

Pete brought up the question of family memberships and should it be considered a good idea. We don't currently have that category but have been asked about it. The question is "what would constitute a family membership?" and "at what age would a child have to be responsible for its own membership?". These are questions for the board to discuss at the next meeting.

For the benefit of new members Pete asked all monitors/instructors to stand and be recognized.

Vice President Jean Barkley asked for a round of applause for Wayne Klement and his 8 dedicated years of service to the club as Editor of "Cutting Remarks" and Membership Chairman.

Murray Hiller, Pima County Fair Chairman, asked for additional help during the last 5 days of the fair. He also could use display items. Anyone wishing to display his or her works please contact Murray.

Diana Hara is looking into Jerry Glaxman's idea for business cards. She will have information at the next board meeting.

Elwyn Wooster inquired if we had a junior rock club? This is handled through the Junior Education Program.

Melinda Thompson, advertising chair did not have any new advertisers at this time.

Peter announced the fence surrounding the facilities is now secure and the gates have been repaired and are functional and secure.

Rosemont Copper's field trip will be April 21<sup>st</sup>. Details will be available at next months meeting. Nothing new on the Ray Mine field trip and it may be some time before they resume allowing field trips.

Junior Education Chair, Sheila Powell had nothing to add at this time.

Twink Monrad has the library open and she is working on the plaque.

Wayne Klement reported on his last membership duty that as of February 16th we had 234 members. Since then we are up to approximately 240 members.

President Peterson adjourned the meeting.



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Bill Harvey**  
**Sharleen Harvey**  
**Matt Wolf**

**Michael Tucker**  
**Barbara Allen**  
**Beverly Garland**



## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Hello everybody! I've officially taken over as the new editor of *Cutting Remarks*. I think it's important to say that we all owe Wayne Klement a huge "Thank You Sir!" for his amazing work over the past eight years as newsletter editor and membership chairperson. In both capacities he has been nothing short of outstanding.

Wayne has also been instrumental in my transition as new editor. Luckily, I'm very familiar with the software involved, so the additional workload hasn't been ugly. That being said, my free time is at a premium right now, and I'd much appreciate an assistant (the title of "co-editor" is available for those who don't want to be an "assistant"!)

Basically I'm just looking for someone interested in snapping a few digital pictures throughout the month, or maybe nosing out a story or two... Another good way to see it is "very little responsibility" (I'm trying to make this as easy as possible, guys!)

Anyone interested please contact Mike DeMeritt at [silverlininggemstones@gmail.com](mailto:silverlininggemstones@gmail.com), or call me at (520) 203-8430. Thank You!

## **"JUST TWO TYPICAL ARIZONA WOMEN..."**



OPLC Lifetime Member Sylvia Czayo meets Arizona Governor Jan Brewer at the opening of the Tucson Gem Show at the TCC on February 9th, 2012. When she's not palling around with famous dignitaries, Sylvia can often be found in the Faceting workshop.

## MAKE YOUR OWN STONE CLOTH

Ever notice how quickly a polished stone starts to lose its luster when passed around and shown off? Many things contribute to this phenomenon, but two common elements are skin oils and microscopic abrasive particles. Professional gem dealers carry a “stone cloth” like the type available from the Gemological Institute of America. But unless you are GIA alumni, you probably don’t know where to start looking - and when you find cloths available, the asking price is often a little hard to swallow! The good news is that you can make your own! Buy some felt (tight-grained is better) at any fabric or craft store (think of the fabric on the outside of a Sterling Silver polishing cloth...) Simply cut to the size and shape you desire, then mist one side with 100,000-grit diamond spray (available at lapidary or rock shops, or occasionally available from faceter friends - good ones, anyway!) Let dry overnight. Use the side without diamonds first, to remove oils, then rub the stone well with the diamond-impregnated side. You (and all onlookers!) will be pleasantly impressed! You can use diamond spray of larger grit size (50,000 works well), but be certain not to use a grit size larger than your final polishing stage, or you’ll “erase” your beautiful original finish! If you polish with an oxide compound (cerium, alumina, etc.), don’t use any grit size larger than 50,000 (note that “larger” translates to a smaller number in this regard...) This works well for almost any material, though works particularly well for agates and jaspers - and their “evil” habit of losing luster over time!



## CAB POLISHING PROBLEMS

Polishing problems tend to be the norm for beginners, and can often lead to much frustration - even the decision to abandon the hobby altogether! When cabbing, many neophytes don’t spend enough time in the sanding and pre-polishing stages, leaving scratches that refuse to go away. I recommend paying close attention to material in its *dry* state (when wet, scratches are nearly impossible to see...) Dry your material after each stage, and observe in reflected light (light behind you). Observe the texture and color changes of your material as you move from one wheel to the next - the texture should progressively get smoother (scratches will be smaller and homogenous), and the color will improve (deepen) with each stage. A good way to observe this is to start with a cab that you are certain is finished in a given stage (ask a good cab-cutter if you are uncertain - there are many in our club!) Take your cab to the next stage, *but only finish half of it on that stage - don’t work the other half*. Dry your cab and carefully observe the difference between the two sides. It is best to do this both with and without a loupe, so you will be familiar with both eye- and magnified-observation. Do this for every stage, and you will be more familiar with the “look” of each given stage, and therefore much more likely to notice when you are leaving scratches before you get much farther. Bear in mind that materials of different hardness may look different for the same stage, so don’t be unwilling to go through this process again for a different material. You will spend some extra time here, but the knowledge you gain will be well worthwhile as you progress! It won’t be long before you know the “look” of any given material at any given stage - and therefore be able to quickly resolve any polishing problems! (Tips provided by Mike DeMeritt, 2012)

## "WHAT ARE DENDRITES?"

Dendrites - crystalline, black, fern-like patterns that resemble forest scenes - have captured the fancy of collectors for centuries.



Dendrites produce an amazing original work of art by Mother Nature.

You may have heard the term dendrite, or more likely the adjective, dendritic, used

when describing a gemstone, and wondered exactly what it was. They are attractive patterns, usually black or dark brown, that are seen in many types of gemstone material. They are most often associated with agates but are sometimes found in quartz, opal, limestone and other stones. They are sometimes called picture stone or painted stone. The patterns occur naturally due to the presence of iron and manganese oxides. Dendrites are the branch-like formations of manganese oxide crystallizing within the stone.

Metaphysically, these mineral dendrites symbolize growth or change. The word **dendrite** comes from the Greek word for "tree" because a dendritic inclusion in a stone looks like a branching tree or at least like some type of plant life. They are often said to look like ferns or moss and many people mistakenly speculate that they are fossil imprints of moss. Actually, dendrites are inclusions of manganese crystals.

They are formed when manganese-rich water seeps into tiny crevices in rocks and the manganese crystals are deposited in intricate branching patterns.



(From Pasadena Lapidary Society's *Ramblings*, June 2010 Issue)

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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!**

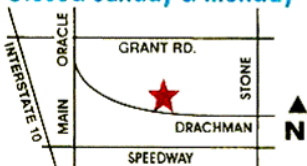
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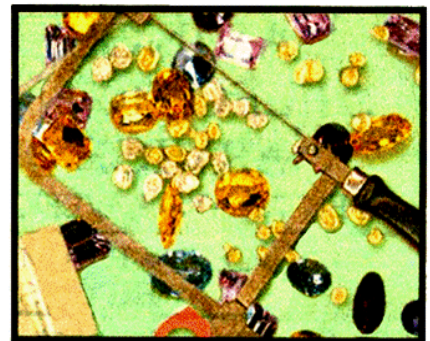
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**3401 Dodge Blvd, Tucson**
- **Colorwright** - 520-623-3874 Web address: <http://www.color-wright.com/>, **MAILING ADDRESS:** 1520 S Desert Crest Dr., Tucson, AZ 85713. Amount of discount depends on item(s) being purchased.
- **Jay's of Tucson** - 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% 520-624-8098 - **133 E Grant Road, Tucson**
- **Tucson Mineral & Gem World** - 10% 520-883-0682 Web address:  
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Ad Expires 6/30/12

# DAH ROCK SHOP

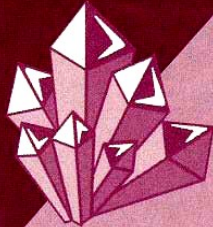
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## DONATIONS

**Jean Knuth:** magazines and plastic bags.

**Norman Crane's niece Betty donated:** (3) Faceting machines (dops, 71 laps, and extra parts), (3) 4-inch saws, 8-inch saw, base-mounted Foredom Tool, drill press and drill bits, refractometer, jig saw, Dremel tools, grinder w/table, dental tools, (2) Optivisors, punch set, Black and Decker sander, tumbler, books and magazines, casting molds and other parts, (2) blazer torches, drop lamp, tools (silver, screwdrivers, pliers, files...etc), vise, (2) scales, (3) stools, adjustable table lamp, ultrasonic cleaner, magnifiers, soldering tools, Acetylene and oxygen tanks, router sets, buffer, drafting set, hone stones, electric drill, DC power supply, power slide regulator, nicad battery charger. Faceting Rough (Quartz, CZ, YAG, Garnets, AZ Peridot, Corundum Boules, Tourmaline, Apatite, Topaz, Beryl...etc). Rough Rock (Turquoise, Lapis, Chrysoprase, Petrified Coral, Rhodonite, Opals, red coral...etc).

**Thanks for the exceptional donations!**

**Members wishing to donate to OPLC should find Dan Harmsen, or give him a call at 721-8452.**



## 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 - Ron Davidson 749-3157

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

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

6PM - 9PM **Silversmithing**  
Contact Ray Brown 390-5667

### Wednesdays

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

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

### Thursdays

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

### Fridays

9AM - Noon **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Dan Harmsen 721-8452

### Saturdays

9AM - 2PM **Rock Sawing**  
Monitor - Jim Griffin 578-3765

10AM - 3PM **Silversmithing**  
Monitor - Ray Brown 390-5667

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

### Sundays

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

## 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

Frank Schleicher (512) 913-4241

### SECURITY

Ron Davidson 749-3157

### SILENT AUCTION

Dan Harmsen 721-8452

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club  
 (Cutting Remarks - Apr 2012)  
 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 (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

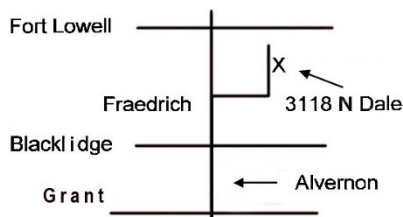
Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Summer Dates: From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Type of membership:	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.