

# “CUTTING REMARKS”

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

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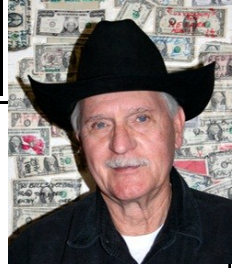
Please note - - there  
will be **NO MEETING**  
in February due to  
activities associated  
with the Tucson Gem  
Show.

Be My  
Valentine



Articles or news to be included in the *Cutting Remarks* should be emailed to your Editor, Wayne Klement ([wayneklem@aol.com](mailto:wayneklem@aol.com)), or feel free to call him at 520-954-6298. Submission deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Thanks!

# THE PREZ SEZ ..... by Pete Peterson



February is almost here with all of the Gem and Mineral shows. I hope all of the OPLC members will stop by our booth during the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show February 10 through the 13th and say hello. Look for us on the Mezzanine. The roster for those who volunteered to man our booth has been submitted to the show committee. Please be on time and if for any reason you can't make your scheduled date or time be sure to let me know. Thank you.

Remember that due to the Gem Show there will be no regular meeting in February.

Also, this is a reminder that the March meeting will be on the first Saturday rather than the second so that many of our members can attend the Deming Rockhound Roundup March 10th to the 13th. See you March 5th. Mark your calendars.

Set up for the HobNob meeting is January 29th and the event takes place on February 5. If you have any questions, give Art Kavan a call. It is a great addition to the Club's activities and Art has been the organizer for many years. Thank you, Art.

The response to the relocation and remodel of the Silver and Faceting rooms has

been positive and they are getting good use. We had an actual crowd checking them out after the January meeting.

I hope you all enjoy the next few weeks of Gem Show fun and shopping. Be careful – if it looks too good to be true, it probably is, but it sure is fun looking.

I will see you at the March meeting. Come early and we can swap stories about the good deals we made and what was new this year.

Pete

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jeff Barkett	Cindy Klaiber	Dot Rohrer	Karen Satterfield
Harold Hutton	Fay Roepcke	Mel Rohrer	
Athena Kennemer	Yvonna Roepcke	Dan Satterfield	

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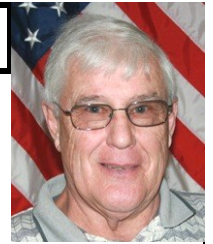
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## JANUARY MEETING MINUTES .. By Pat McMullen, Secretary



The meeting was called to order by President Peterson at 9 a.m. A quorum was present.

The first order of business was the swearing in of the incoming officers and Board members. Diana Hara read the swearing in of President Pete Peterson, who in turn swore in the Treasurer, Diana Hara; Secretary, Pat McMullen; Board members, Ted Rupp, Skip Barkley, and Murray Hiller. Absent was Bill Carmody and new Board member Jim Baker.

Pete thanked outgoing Board member Dave Witwer on a job well done.

The Club renovations in the faceting lab, silver lab and the ladies room were all done with Club labor in a timely manner. All volunteers were asked to stand for a nice round of applause.

We had one new member, Nate Ervin, and several visitors: Sheilah Eddy, Bill Kennedy, Bill Evey, Kathy Kennedy and Jack Hales. Welcome to all of you.

Diana Hara brought up the new t-shirts. We will use the newer Club logo with blue t-shirts. She will place an order for 70% short sleeve t-shirts and 30% long sleeve t-shirts. The total cost of renovating the faceting and silver labs was \$1,240.00 per Diana.

Sylvia thanked all the volunteers for the wonderful job done on the ladies rest room and the faceting lab.

Signup sheets for the TGMS show at the Convention Center are ready and volunteers are needed for our Club booth. A total of 8 people are needed per day for 2 four shifts. Our booth numbers are 17-19 on the upper level. The setup will take place February 9th and runs through February 13th which is also the take down date.

Diana Hara went through the budget for 2011, item by item, to the satisfaction of all present. A motion was made and seconded to pass the 2011 budget. The budget was passed by a unanimous vote.

Under new business Art Kavan encouraged people to volunteer for the TGMS show. It's an opportunity for a good time and to meet lots of good folks. Volunteers are also needed for the annual Hob Nob on January 29th to clean and set up tables. The meeting starts February 5th and last year brought in \$300.00 for our Club.

Pete mentioned our signs on the clubhouse are getting rather weathered and need to be refurbished. If this is something you can do please contact Pete as soon as possible.

The plaques for past President and deceased club members need to be updated. John Thompson and Diana Hara will take charge of updating the plaques.

The flat lap donated by the U of A needs to be refurbished before putting into use. If we are unable to do this then it may go for the Silent Auction.

Frank Beaven will have a lapidary class starting this coming Thursday, January 13th.

Dave Witwer thanked Wolfgang for the Pima Mine trip, a fine outing enjoyed by all who attended.

Keith Haubert spoke to the need for maintenance on the machines in the cabbing lab. The need for a 50,000 grit wheel to obtain a better finish needs to be purchased.

The door prize was won by Frederick Vaatz.

Pete adjourned the meeting.



It is with sadness that we inform you of the passing of Carl Bowlby's wife, Mary, on January 3, 2011. Please remember his family in your prayers.

## FIELD TRIP TO MISSION MINE

January 7, 2011



This is the group that participated on the field trip. As usual, our host, Bruce Veek (3rd from right, 1st row), was most gracious and after an overview of the mining operation, took us to a few sites for some outstanding collecting.



A sample of the Malachite that was available



Shiela Powell pecking away at her find. I think she was hoping she could take the whole rock home with her. A lot of nice color in there too.

### ON THE LIGHTER SIDE .....

Three animals are outstanding examples of the Beast of Burden class: the mule, the camel, and the simple-minded rockhound. The mule is smart - put one pound more than his usual load on him, and he simply balks until it is removed. The camel is even more decided in his ideas - try overloading him and he'll stay in the sand, and if you persist, will spit his cud at you. But that simple-minded rockhound? He takes 15 to 20 pounds of equipment in with him, then tries to load on about 50 to 60 pounds of rock and carry it back to the car on the road. Does this sound familiar to anyone? (Via Rocky Mountain News 10/10, Via Quarry Quips 9/10, via BEMS Tumbler 7/10, via Conglomerate, 3/09; via The Rockpile, 2/09; from The T Town Rockhound, 11/08)

A cannibal entered the meat market to buy something nice for dinner. The owner greeted him and told him to look around. The cannibal began to inspect the meat case and noticed the market specialized in brains. Upon further inspection he noticed a marked disparity between the costs of brain meats. A carpenter's brain sells for \$1.50 per pound. A plumber's brain sells for \$2.25 per pound. He noticed with alarm that a mineral collector's brain sells for \$375.00 a pound. With not a little curiosity he asked the owner why the huge difference in price between the similar meats. The owner responded with a deadpan look on his face, "Do you realize how many mineral Collectors it takes to get a pound of brains?"

## NEW FLAT LAP FOR THE CLUB???



Wayne, Skip, Pete, and Bill accepted the donation of a two-position, Buerler Ltd. manufactured, variable speed, flat lapping machine from the National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO) at the University of Arizona. The NOAO activity at U of A supports Observatories at Kitts Peak, AZ. and Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory in Chile with both technical expertise, equipment, and astronomers.

Jerry Smith, NOAO Property

Officer, effected the equipment transfer. We thank the NOAO and, especially, Jerry Smith for thinking of us and making the donation.

Our initial thoughts are possibly placing the lapping device in the Lapidary Lab if it checks out to be fully functional.

Bill

## Ask Your Gemologist – The Perfect Diamond

by Mark Villaneuva, Houston Gem & Mineral Society

Over the past nine years as a gemologist and jewelry appraiser, I have had the privilege of viewing many types of jewelry. I have appraised jewelry ranging from antique costume jewelry to fancy colored diamonds weighing over 25 carats, and I had yet to hold a perfect diamond. On December 1, 2007 a friend came to me for a jewelry appraisal and said, “Guess what I just bought—a perfect diamond.”

Growing up as a kid in a middle class family, I was always told that there was room for improvement and that nothing was ever perfect. I carried this attitude into my professional life. I would always find an imperfection when grading diamonds. Whether it was the cut, color, or clarity grade, there was an imperfection to be found. My friend handed me a diamond that was almost nine carats in weight. I ignored what he said and proceeded to grade the diamond.

When grading diamonds, you hear and read about “The Four Cs” of a diamond. Cut, color, clarity, and carat weight determine the value of the stone, but what is perfect? I start with the gem it self, knowing that only 20% of all diamonds are of gem quality. Diamonds are almost pure carbon that formed over millions and sometimes billions of years ago. Just a slight variation in chemistry, structure, or conditions of formation impacts whether the stone is of gem quality or is industrial

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grade. When diamond crystals grow about 75 to 100 miles below the earth's surface they frequently incorporate atoms of other elements.

Nitrogen is a common trace element found within diamonds. When nitrogen atoms replace just 1 out of every 10,000 carbon atoms the resulting diamond has a faint yellow tint. The more nitrogen atoms, the more yellow the tint becomes.

Most people think of diamonds as colorless, but the majority range from near-colorless to faint yellow. Similarly, if a diamond has traces of boron, the result is a blue-tint diamond. In the past, there was no color standard to refer to for diamonds, and dealers made up names such as Cape White, Top White, Blue White, etc. Over 2000 years ago diamond color was referred to by numerical value – the lower the number, the higher the value of the diamond.

The Gemological Institute of America (GIA) developed a Diamond Color Grade Scale (DCGS) that is widely used in the U.S., and it is the standard upon which most other grading systems are based. The GIA DCGS consists of 23 letter grades. It begins with the letter D (colorless) and continues through Z (light yellow, grey, or brown). About 95% of the diamonds that are large enough to cut range from nearly colorless to faint yellow.

Nature adds features on the inside of diamonds called clarity features or inclusions. There are 11 GIA clarity grades: Flawless (FL) is the top, and Included 3 (I3) is the lowest. Diamonds are clarity graded at 10x with a gemological microscope and 10x diamond grading loupe. There are diamonds that have minute exterior inclusions that are very rare. These diamonds are called Internally Flawless (IF). This means it may have a slight blemish feature on the exterior of the diamond. This type of diamond could be polished again to increase the clarity grade from IF to Flawless but that is rarely done. There are IF diamonds that because of their atomic structure will never achieve the clarity grade of flawless. If the diamond is polished too much it will get a burn from the diamond wheel, and the grade and value decrease. Depending on the size of the diamond, this can result in a financial loss of thousands of dollars. Very few skilled diamond polishers can perform this task.

Five factors determine the overall clarity grade of a diamond. The five clarity grades are size, number, position, nature, and relief. The diamond proportions (cut) and finish (polish and symmetry) are graded as well as the color and clarity.

There are also five grades: poor (P), fair (F), good (G), very good (VG) and excellent (EX). These grades go into much further detail by measuring in hundredths of millimeters. A diamond can be graded EX, EX on the polish and symmetry but still receive an overall cut grade of VG.

In 1914 the U.S. Congress created the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to protect American consumers from unlawful business practices. In 1957 the FTC published the Trade Practice Rules for the Jewelry Industry. This FTC publication specifically defines a diamond and the use of the words "flawless" and "perfect." To be defined as "Perfect" a diamond must achieve the following: the color grade of D-colorless, the clarity grade of Flawless with the overall cut grade EX, and the polish and symmetry grade of EX (known as triple EX,EX,EX). Technically speaking it is against the

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law for a jeweler to refer to a diamond that is not D-Flawless Triple EX as “perfect.” After grading my friend’s diamond for color, clarity, and cut, I gave it back to him later in the day. He asked what I thought, and I told him it was Perfect. He replied, “I know. The GIA laboratory said the same. Just checking.” The appraised value of this diamond is \$1,500,000.

References: The Nature of Diamonds by George Harlow, Diamonds by Vicky Paterson, Rough Diamonds, Internal and External Features by Nimaz Peters, and The Diamond Makers by Robert M. Hazen

Source: *The Backbender's Gazette*, 1/08 (Honorable Mention – AFMS Original Adult Articles Advanced)

## DONATIONS



Margaret Metcalf donated a Graves faceting machine, laps, ultra laps, tools, dops, books, alcohol lamp, transfer tool, some stones for faceting, a cabinet for faceting items, magazines, polishing compounds for cabs, silicon carbide wheels, slabs, jelly opal from Mexico and a small rock vise.

And another donation was received from Harold Hutton - a 10 inch slab saw with grinding & polishing capability. Thanks for the donations as it really helps out the Club financially.

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Ad Expires December 2011



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Ad Expires June 2011

### 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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- **Colorwright** - Amount of discount depends on item(s) being purchased. 520-623-3874  
**1201 North Main Avenue, Tucson 85705**
- **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](http://www.tucsonmineral.com)  
**2801 South Kinney Road, Tucson**

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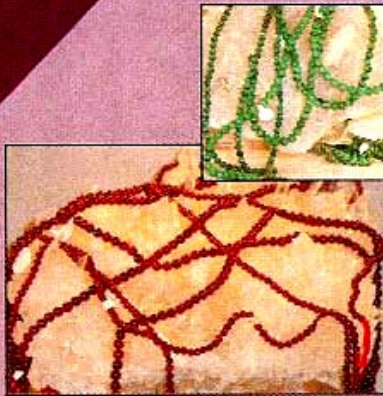
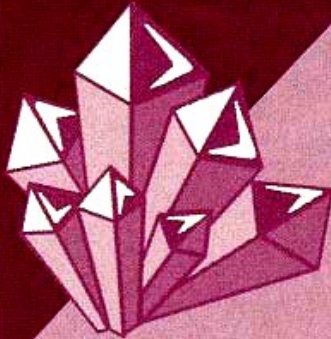


*Photo of clubhouse*

Ad Expires February 2011

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### 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 - John Poole 777-5588

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

10AM - 1PM **Rock Sawing**  
Monitor - Jim Baker 886-2126  
(Call before showing up at the Club)

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

### Wednesdays

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

6PM - 9PM **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Keith Haubert 888-8719

### Thursdays

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

1PM - 4PM **Beginning Cabbing**  
Monitor - Frank Beaven 1-810-919-5545

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

### 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 - Ron Davidson 749-3157

## COMMITTEES

### ADVERTISING

Jean Barkley 546-1651

### BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & EQUIPMENT

Ron Davidson 749-3157

Dave Arens 749-2413

### CLASSES & PROGRAMS

Bill Carmody 760-8598

### FIELD TRIPS

Wolfgang Mueller 896-3197

### HISTORIAN

Twink Monrad 297-9454

### JUNIOR EDUCATION

Gretchen Arnaiz 747-1511

Sheila Powell 578-1976

### KITCHEN

General Membership

### LIBRARIAN

Susette Flemings 741-2275

### MEMBERSHIP

Wayne Klement 954-6298

### SECURITY

Ron Davidson 749-3157

### SILENT AUCTION

Dan Harmsen 721-8452

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club  
 (Cutting Remarks - Feb 2011)  
 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 (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

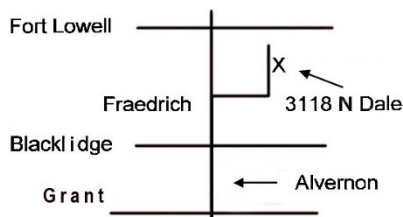
Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Summer Dates: From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

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	\$30.00	\$25.00	\$20.00	\$25.00
Junior	\$12.50	\$10.00	\$8.00	\$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.