

“CUTTING REMARKS”

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

Officers

President - David Schulte 954-8554
Vice President - Victoria Fila
Secretary - Twink Monrad 297-9454
Treasurer - Bob Powell 762-1089

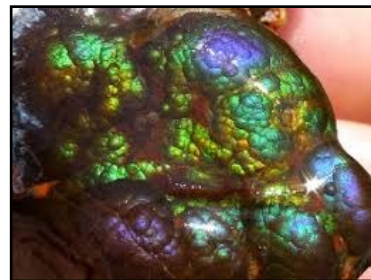
Board of Directors

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)

Membership Chairperson

Wayne Klement 954-6298

Please join us **January 13th** at 9AM 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!

THE PREZ SEZ by David Schulte



A new year is upon us and it's going to be a great year of lapidary fun at OPLC! Our business meeting for December was held on Friday, December 1st. Our next business meeting will be held on Friday, January 6th, 2018.

The vote for the new OPLC board was held in December after the Christmas luncheon and your new board has been elected for 2018.

Our thanks go out to all the folks that brought food and other donations in for the Christmas dinner and especially the volunteers that helped set up and clean up after the dinner. A special thanks to Wayne Klement and Victoria for cooking the hams and Skip and Dennis for cooking the turkeys for us this year.

Now that the Christmas season is behind us we are all looking forward to the upcoming Gem show. I'm sure there are going to be some great rocks, gems and material to be had once again this year. We are collecting jewelry, gem and finished stuff for the display case presentation that we set up down at the Gem show every year. If you would like to have one or more of your gorgeous pieces displayed, please contact Pat Droll or John Poole. You can drop off your pieces to John at the club on Tuesday's. Pat will make the final selection of what is to be displayed at the Gem show booth.

The Hob Nob, Facetor's Frolic and the Gem show are coming to Tucson in February. Gloria has been running that Hob Nob event for few years now and has decided that someone else should join in the fun. The club is still looking for a volunteer to help organize and run the Hob Nob event at our club to include organiz-

ing the set up and food for the event. If anyone is interested in taking on this role for the club please contact Gloria Jean Dana or David Schulte. As the Facetors Frolic will be happening again this year at our club, we are likely to have a many more people attend the event. Sign-up sheets for this event and supporting the various time slots for the club display the Gem Show are in the kitchen area in the club house. Sign up and help out!

The club is looking for a volunteer to take over the silent auction efforts in 2018 or at least be the number two person along with Tom. If anyone is interested in helping out, please contact Tom McDevitt or David Schulte. We will also be cleaning and sealing the floor in the main building in the next month and are looking for volunteers to help get this work done. Please see or contact David Schulte if you are interested in helping out.

Victoria Filla will once again be running the meeting in January as I will be moving my daughter from Charlotte, NC to Houston, TX for her next rotation job. The meeting will start at 9 a.m. Our speaker this month is Eric Fritz who is a gemologist from Gem-A and he will be giving us a talk about "Coral". Remember to wear you OPLC badge to the meeting.

I hope you all have a marvelous new year in 2018 and I look forward to seeing you all at the club. If you have not renewed your membership for 2018, it's that time again.

David

Front Cover Pictures: Incredible **Spessartite Garnet** from Tanzania is January's birthstone. **Mexican Fire Agate** of this quality is becoming more scarce every day, and makes great cabochons!

Cutting Remarks, Volume 2018, Issue 1, January 2018. Published monthly by the Old Pueblo Lapidary Club, 3118 N. Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712. Telephone: (520) 323-9154, a non-profit organization.



OPLC MONTHLY MEETING
December 9, 2017

The meeting was brought to order by Vice President Victoria Fila at 11:15 AM.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved.

Bob Powell gave a treasurer's report which will be on file.

Victoria asked for volunteers to help Wolfgang Mueller provide items for the OPLC display cabinet which will be featured during the TGMS Main Show in TCC February 8 – 11. Sign up sheets are in the kitchen for volunteers to be at OPLC booth at TGMS Main Show.

Also needed is someone to organize the Hob Nob at OPLC which is also held during the Gem and Mineral Show.

The Pima County fair volunteers for our

booth there need to sign up soon, sign up sheets are in the kitchen.

Kim handed out tickets to each person present for the drawings for herbs and rocks after the lunch.

Election: The slate of candidates was accepted and all were elected by a motion of acclamation. There were no nominations from the floor.

President: David Schulte, VP: Victoria Fila, Secretary: Pat Droll, Treasurer: Bob Powell and Board: Twink Monrad, Diane Braswell, Tom McDevitt and Bill Penrose. They will be installed at the January 12th meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 and the luncheon began.

Twink Monrad, Secretary

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Greg | Ergle | Valerie | Kaplan |
| Ian | Finley | Jordan | Kaplan |
| Rose Marie | Gastelum | Bill | Kershaw |
| Ashley | Haller | Larry | Lescance |
| Adam | Kane | Debbie | Wayne |

2018 OPLC Speakers- A Forecast Look

So, let's take a forecast look at the year 2018.

Eric Fritz, gemologist from Gem-A, "Coral" (January 13, 2018)

Juan Garcia, "Maria Felix: Her Life & Jewelry" (March 10, 2018)

Patti Polk, "Agates & Jaspers of the Southwest" (April 14, 2018)

Kevin Lane Smith, lapidary and jewelry artist (May 12, 2018)

Jim Turner, "Turquoise Mining around Jerome" (June 9, 2018)

Nick Sacketti, "Fluorescent Minerals" (October 13, 2018)

Please do come to the meetings and enjoy these great speakers and their presentations.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon,

Helen Serras-Herman, OPLC Program chair

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE NOW

Hey members.....dues were due 1/1/2018 this year. I don't start dropping people off the roster until the end of January but because of the liability waiver on the second page being added to the membership application/renewal form this year, all dues are due ASAP. No one will be allowed to work in the labs unless they have renewed and signed the liability form on the second page. To make it easier for you to re-up, cut and paste this URL into your browser and it will take you to a printable PDF form on the Club website:

http://www.lapidaryclub.org/graphics/membership_application.pdf

This will be your last newsletter until you renew.

Thanks..... Wayne Klement, Membership Chair (wayneklem@aol.com)

OPLC is planning a display at the 2018 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show at the Convention Center in February. The display is intended to showcase the wide range of activities at OPLC.

We would like examples of work produced by OPLC members pertaining to cabbing & lapidary, metalsmithing (including casting) and/or faceting. Work of all levels of skill are welcome. Members can submit up to three pieces of their work. Each piece submitted should have the member's name, a brief description of the item and contact information.

Pieces may be submitted to the following individuals:

John Poole

When: Tuesdays 9 am to Noon

Where: OPLC Silversmithing Room

Pat Droll

When: Mondays 1 pm to 4 pm or Saturdays 9 am to 2 pm

Where: OPLC Silversmithing Room

Optional

Call Pat Droll at 520-345-2792 to arrange a date and time to meet and submit your piece(s) at the clubhouse.

Items need to be submitted no later than 5 February 2018.

Questions? Call Pat Droll: 520-345-2792 or email me at; patdroll@gmail.com

Thanks for your help,

Pat



Dan Lilly: Paper Towels

To donate to OPLC, just contact Tom McDevitt at (520) 575-0517

January 2018 OPLC Speaker

Eric Fritz: Coral



We are very fortunate to have our very own member, Eric Fritz, returning to give us another very unique presentation on our January 13, 2018 OPLC monthly meeting. He will be talking about Coral. Eric will share with us how Coral has been used as a gem material for well over 5000 years. Coral, an organic gemstone, similar in composition to pearls and the product of bio mineralization, is produced by living organisms. Black coral is the state Gemstone of Hawaii and currently protected by the endangered species Act. Red coral is commonly referred to as precious, as indeed it is. Red coral from the Mediterranean is still currently harvested under strict self imposed guidelines. We will look at all the types of gem quality corals on the market as well as the dyed and stabilized sponge and bamboo corals seen in huge piles at gem and bead shows. Native American jewelry has featured corals from Italy, and the Italians have a love for our Arizona turquoise. Corals are suitable for carving, cabbing and beads. Examples will be on hand for your hands on examination.

Eric Fritz, FGA, DGA, who has previously given us two excellent presentations, 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, holding both colored stone and diamond designations. The Gem-A offers online courses with onsite labs convenient to all students. 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.

With all of Eric's travels, we are truly very fortunate to have him give this presentation. Looking forward to seeing you all in the New Year 2018!

Helen Serras-Herman, OPLC Program chair



2017 OPLC Speakers - A big Thank You!

I would like to give a big thank you to all our 2017 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 2017:

Brian Cook, gem artist, talked on Paraiba Tourmalines and Rutilated Quartz from Brazil (March), Dwight Thibodeaux, Rio Rico historian, talked on “Prehistoric Rio Rico” (April), Gregory McNamee, Tucson-based historian and author, presented “Arizona Place Names: Stories of the Land” (May), Dr. Arthur Vokes, Curator Arizona State Museum, presented “Pre-Contact Ornaments: Variety, Materials, Roles” (June), Sindi & Jerry Schloss, appraisers & gemologists, “Four Peaks Amethyst” (July), Anna Domitrovic “Rockhounding & Mining along Route 66” (August), Bob & Elaine Royer, travelers extraordinaire, presented “Easter Island” (September), Dr. Brad Ross, talked to us about an extraordinary event named the “Bingham Canyon Manefay Slide” (October), and Jan Cleere, Tucson based historian and author, presented “Petticoat Prospectors”- Early Women Miners of the Western Frontier” in November. What a terrific year!

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 was there early to set up the projector and screen for the speakers, Jerry Glazman who arranged for our October speaker Dr Brad Ross, and also introduced our last speaker Jan Cleere, Kim Filips who introduced our June speaker Dr. Arthur Vokes, as well as our president and treasurer who take care of the speaker’s honorariums. Above all, I would like to thank all of you who come to the meetings and enjoy these great speakers.

We are also very excited for 2018. A full list of the 2018 speakers is in the next pages.

Looking forward to seeing you all in 2018,

Helen Serras-Herman, OPLC Program chair

Natural vs. Enhanced Lapidary Materials

Lecture presentation by **Helen Serras-Herman, FGA**

AGTA GemFair Tucson Seminars

Tucson Convention Center- GRAHAM Room, **Sat February 3, 2018,**
1:00-2:00pm



There is an endless inventory of lapidary gem materials on the market today created or enhanced to look like some other natural material, usually one that is rare and expensive. Most are natural materials that have been dyed or compressed to simulate a better quality material, or another natural material, while others are partly natural stone and partly other materials, such as resins, metals, etc.

All these simulants provide an inexpensive alternative to natural gems, and many of them are beautiful, with bold patterns, and durable to be used into jewelry. The only problem surrounding these stones is the lack of disclosure, as the cabochon and bead market almost slides quietly under the disclosure radar.

Helen Serras-Herman, gem artist and FGA gemologist, will discuss various natural vs. enhanced lapidary materials; among them the popular Sonora chrysocolla, natural turquoise vs. compressed blocks, sugilite vs. Mohave purple turquoise, drusy gems, azurite with malachite, lapis, and rainbow calcsilica.

Turquoise: The World's Most Fascinating Gemstone

Friday, February 2, 2018
7:00 - 9:00 p.m., CESL 103, Free



Joe Dan Lowry believes the only things more colorful than turquoise are the characters who love it. Join us for an interactive and lively presentation by this world-renowned expert. Joe Dan's talk will include stories about his family's five generations of mining, lapidary, and research, and about the people, cultures, religions, opinions, and misrepresentations he has encountered while dealing turquoise around the world. Joe Dan is the author of many books and articles. Bring your copies to be autographed. Books available on site for purchase. Joe Dan Lowry curates the Turquoise Museum in Albuquerque, NM. His knowledge of turquoise is sought the world over. He is a miner, lapidary, appraiser, and researcher. His family's line of jewelry, The Lowry Family Collection, is a global brand. The Center for English as a Second Language (CESL) is one building east of ASM north.

This is a presentation of the Arnold and Doris Roland Distinguished Speaker Series, made possible by the generosity of Dr. and Mrs. Roland. Reception is underwritten by the Friends of the ASM Collections.

*By the hammer and hand,
All the arts do stand.*
-Traditional



Arizona Lapidary & Gem Rough
7320 E Broadway, Tucson AZ 85710
arizonalapidary.com 520-399-6641

**Come Visit Us at Tucson's
Year-Round Gem Show**

**Minerals ~ Cabochons
Lapidary Rough ~ Crystals
Custom Design ~ Rock Cutting**

**Club Member Discount:
10% OFF Rough Rock**

Allen's Treasure House

Lapidary supplies, minerals, decorative objects, watch batteries, maps, prospecting tools, much more.



www.allens-treasure-house.com

4313 E Grant Road (near Columbus); Tucson AZ 85712;
(520) 326-5550; mail@allens-treasure-house.com

Call for hours.

Ad Expires June 2017



Beta Diamond Products, Inc.

www.betadiamond.com

info@betadiamond.com

(714)777-7144

Beta Diamond Products would like to thank Old Pueblo Lapidary 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 the best U.S. micronized diamond on the market. Use our diamond powder and diamond spray – club favorites! Ask other members about our excellent quality, delivery and price.



Beta Is Better!!!

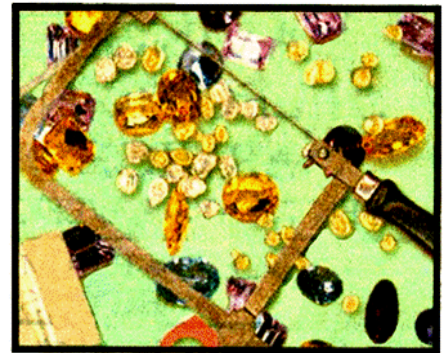
Ad Expires May 2016

JEWELERS SUPPLIES

GOLD ★ SILVER ★ SHEET ★ WIRE

SINCE 1967

For The Professional And Hobbyist



882-8750

Starr Gems, Inc.

www.silversupplies.com

Tuesday - Friday 9-5

Saturday 10-2

Closed Sunday & Monday



- SILVERSMITH TOOLS
- LAPIDARY EQUIPMENT
- FOREDOM TOOLS
- STONES • BEADS
- FINDINGS • CHAINS
- HOW TO BOOKS

220 W. DRACHMAN

SHOWCASES & JEWELRY
DISPLAY ACCESSORIES

**OPLC Members Receive 10% off select merchandise,
And 3-ounce price break on all silver purchases!**

Ad Expires June 2015

MONEY SAVING DISCOUNTS

- **DAH Rock Shop** - 10% on most items, \$10 minimum purchase. 520-323-0781
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 (**4813 E Speedway in Pinecrest Center**)
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 - **2745 N 1st Avenue, 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 off rough rock 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!**

Rate Schedule for Advertisements - - - Ad Sizes & Prices

1/8 of a page -
2" H by 3 1/2" W
\$36.00 per year
\$18.00 per half year
\$3.00 per month

1/4 of a vertical page -
4 1/2" H by 3 1/2" W
\$48.00 per year
\$24.00 per half year
\$4.00 per month

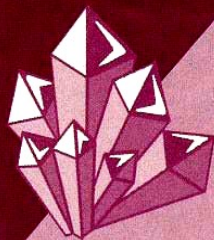
1/4 of horizontal page -
2" H by 7 1/4" W
\$48.00 per year
\$24.00 per half year
\$4.00 per month

1/2 page - 4 1/2" H by 7 1/4" W
\$96.00 per year
\$8.00 per month

Full page - 9 1/2" H by 7 1/4" W
\$168.00 per year
\$14.00 per month

DAH ROCK SHOP

- Crystals
- Fossils
- Minerals
- Meteorites
- Faceted Stones
- Cabochons
- Turquoise
- Tumbled Stones
- Bookends
- Eggs & Spheres



YOUR BEAD STOP

104
DIFFERENT
VARIETIES
OF SEMI-PRECIOUS
STONE BEADS

All Beads Picked
by Resident Graduate
Gemologist
Huge Selection of
Sterling Silver Findings
Turquoise from
Around the World

3401 N. Dodge, 3 blocks N. of Ft. Lowell (520) 323-0781

**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

ADVERTISING

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)

Janelle Cortwright 761-1924

HISTORIAN

Bill Cascio 638-8144

JUNIOR EDUCATION

Ron Graichen 529-2661

KITCHEN

General Membership

LIBRARIAN

Bill Cascio

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

Mondays

8AM - 11AM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Gloria Jean Dana 369-7225

1PM - 4PM **Silversmith Lab**

Monitor - Pat Droll 345-2792

6PM - 9PM **Beginning Faceting**

Monitor - Billy Bob Riley 225-9060

6PM - 9PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Margarett Harris 561-2315

Tuesdays

9AM - 1PM **Cabbing***

Monitor - Mike DeMeritt 240-5133

9AM - Noon **Silversmithing Lab**

Monitor - John Poole 777-5588

1PM - 4PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Jerry Glazman 860-689-3432

1PM - 4PM **Faceting Open Lab**

Monitor - Billy Bob Riley 225-9060

Wednesdays

9AM - Noon **Cabbing**

Monitor— Sharon Wilcox 878-8685

9AM - 1PM **Silversmithing**

Monitor - Dennis Murphy

Noon - 3PM **Rock Sawing**

Monitor - Sharon Wilcox 878-8685

6PM - 9PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Keith Haubert 784-8283

6PM - 9PM **Silversmithing Lab**

Monitor - Bill Penrose 780-1143

Thursdays

9AM - 12PM **Rock Sawing**

Monitor - Pete Petersen 886-9021

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

6PM - 9PM **Rock Sawing**

Monitor - Tim Rose 360-480-1817

6PM - 9PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Tom Tuten 803-260-5423

Fridays

9AM - 12PM **Cabbing***

Monitor - David Schulte 954-8554

1PM - 4PM **Silversmithing**

Monitor - Lou Ackerman

Saturdays

9:00AM - 2:00PM **Silversmithing**

Monitor - Pat Droll 345-2792

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

Monitor - Ron Bryan 619-495-7967

10AM - 1PM **Casting Lab**

3PM - 6PM **Casting Class**

Monitor - Ron Brooks 520-378-2592

(Casting Changes Temporary)

Sundays

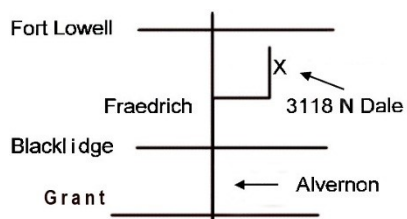
10AM - 3PM **Silversmithing Lab**

Monitor - Giac D'Aquisto 207-6219

10AM - 2PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Donovan Wagner 869-2050

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club
(Cutting Remarks - January 2018)
3118 N. Dale
Tucson, AZ 85712
(520) 323-9154



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.