

“CUTTING REMARKS”

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

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Please join us July 10th 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.

Please check in often for updates regarding scheduling of meetings, labs, and field trips. Most labs are open again - see inside.



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 520-455-5378 or (520) 240-5133. Submission deadline is the 20th of each month. Thanks!

THE PREZ SEZ by Victoria Fila, President



Hello Everyone !

Our first meeting since COVID was a success. Our member's attendance was like any normal June general meeting. It was great to see so many familiar faces and some new faces. We had a great speaker, Evan Jones, with a presentation on Wulfenite. See everyone in July.

July's meeting speaker to be announced.

Starting in July my cab lab schedule will change to the 2nd Saturday and 4th Saturday of the month. This change is to help fit in field trips in the upcoming field trips starting in September.

All labs are running normal which means you do not have to reserve a spot walk-ins are back. We are keeping reservations and those who have called the lab monitor prior to lab day and time will have a spot reserved, so if a lab does fill up the reservation will get a spot.

Field trips: 07/17/21 to Holbrook/Woodruff, meeting at the Speedway at route 77 at 7:00am. Collecting agate, jasper and colorful petrified wood. A member of the Show Low

Club, Rick Olson, will be showing us the area and if time and weather permits, some other nearby areas.

If you were not able to attend June's meeting to sign up you can email me at victoriafila673@gmail.com. You must be a member in good standing, which means your 2021 club dues are paid. You need to file out a field trip waiver which I will email. Those who signed up at the meeting I will be getting your waivers out soon.

I had a few members contact me that they received a text to get a gift card. The members that reported this a few are not on any of my social networks, so I'm not sure where it came from, but have an out-of-state number. This did not come from me - please do not respond, or if there is any link to link do not click. This is a scam. I do apologize to those who were inconvenienced by this scam.

Next board meeting is on 6/28/21 @ 5:00 PM.

Hope everyone is still doing great and hope to see you all at the next member's meeting.

Take care

Victoria Fila

Front Cover Pictures: July's primary birthstone is the red version of sapphire, **Ruby**, like this crystal group from Mozambique. "**Sunstone**" **Labradorite** makes a beautiful multicolor faceted stone.

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PRIOR MONTH'S MEETING MINUTES... William Penrose, Secretary

Minutes of OPLC Membership Meeting

June 12, 2021 9:00 AM at OPLC
Bill Penrose, Secretary,
wrp0143@comcast.net

A quorum of the membership was present, considering this was the first general meeting after 13 months.

Evan Jones, renowned minerologist was back at OPLC with a talk on "Wulfenite - The Official State Mineral of Arizona" with many dazzling photographs of specimens and locales. He left some samples for the raffle.

In lieu of minutes of the last meeting, the contents of the newsletter were accepted by the members by show of hands.

Treasurer's Report (Mark Davidson) – As of May 31, cash \$n, CD's \$n, total \$n. Net income \$3466 for Jan-June of 2021. New wheels for the cab lab have been ordered and will be an approximately \$5000 expense, included in the existing budget.

Membership Report (Janet Keisler) – Total members in good standing 292. Several new members introduced themselves.

Future Meetings – (Victoria) Helen Serras-Hermann will be returning in

September. For August, David Schulte will discuss his inlay work.

Silent auction – no report

Field trips – Victoria has organized a trip to Show Low in mid July for agate, jasper, and petrified wood.

Library – (Bill Cascio) The library is open and in good order.

Tee shirts and hats – (Victoria) These are available in some sizes.

Labs – All labs are open, but on a modified schedule. Reservations are requested, and members who call ahead will have priority. The schedule is in flux, but current versions are available in the labs and on the Old Pueblo Lapidary Club Lab Monitors Group on Facebook. Monitors are needed for all labs.

Junior Education – A volunteer is needed for the Jr. Education program, which supplies kits of stones to schools in the area.

Meeting calendar: Board, June 29 at 5 pm; membership, July 10 at 9 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.00 am.

MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Hi Gang,

Just a quick shout out to everyone. "Don't forget this Saturday, July. 10th is OPLC's monthly meeting." The speaker is Stan Celestian, whom you don't want to miss, and there will be snacks, so make sure to mark your calendars and be there.

One more thing, when renewing your memberships, the dues are \$25 no matter the time of year you are renewing. Even if you have missed a year or more renewing; all past members are renewing members, not new members. Thanks.

Have a great day,

Jan Keisler

Membership Chairperson

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

Sept 11, 2021, Bob & Elaine Royer, "Swarovski Crystal Tour"

October 9, 2021, Les Presmyk, "Quartz- Another Mineral Arizona should be Famous for"

Helen is hard at work setting up speakers for August and November.

David Schulte will be doing the next presentation.

Wolfgang Vaatz will be back in March or April of 2022.

Thanks so much Helen!

IN MEMORIAM

Skip Barkley passed away March 15, 2021. He was an OPLC board member since 2007; in addition he served on various OPLC committees and projects. Skip and his wife Jean retired in Tucson in 1999 after he spent 22 years in the Army and 10 in civil service, both in the intelligence field. Skip exhibited a sense of responsibility to his family, his country and his community. He was highly respected by all who knew him and will be missed by many.



JULY GEMSTONE: RUBY



*Faceted gem-grade ruby from
Thailand*

Not only are they born in the same month as our country, but those born in July have the distinction of having the gem corundum **Ruby** as their birthstone. Ruby is simply the red-colored version of corundum, typically colored by Chromium ions.

Corundum (chemical formula Al_2O_3) forms in the trigonal crystal class, often barrel-shaped, with several steep hexagonal bipyramids and $\{0001\}$, perhaps also $\{1120\}$; also tabular parallel to $\{0001\}$. Crystals are commonly rough with uneven faces; prism and pyramid faces sometimes striated to $\{0001\}$; striation also on $\{0001\}$ parallel with prism faces. Twinning is common on $\{1011\}$ and (0001) . They are usually lamellar, though may be granular. They possess no cleavage, and have a Moh's hardness of 9.0 (second only to diamond), and a density typically around 4.0. They have a vitreous luster, and are transparent to translucent. Corundum is normally pure

Al_2O_3 ; the color-giving ions, such as Cr (Ruby) or Fe and Ti (Sapphire), are present only in very small amounts, typically a few parts per million. The crystal structure can be best described as an almost hexagonal close packing of spheres of O atoms in which two-thirds of the octahedrally-coordinated interstices are occupied by Al and the remaining third is empty.

Corundum occurs in Si-poor igneous rocks such as syenites and nepheline-syenites, and associated pegmatites, in contact zones between peridotites and surrounding rocks, and in metamorphic rocks such as gneisses, mica-schists, and crystalline limestones. Because of its hardness and chemical resistance, it is also widespread in sand and gravel deposits.

The finest rubies come from the Mogok region in Myanmar (formerly Burma), where they are found in metamorphosed limestones, as well as in the overlying weathered zones. Most precious rubies derive from gravel deposits in Sri Lanka, Cambodia, and Thailand, but there are also deposits in Madagascar, Tanzania, Mozambique, and other African locations.

Ruby is a joy to cut and polish, and behaves much like any other corundum. I have heard many facetors complain of resistance to polishing with corundum, though I haven't experienced this myself. Many of these facetors suggest adding vinegar to your water drip. I do agree that corundum takes longer to polish (it does have a hardness of 9.0, after all...). If you are having problems, I recommend a lap sequence of 260-, 600-, and finally, 3000-grit as a pre-polish. Follow with 100K diamond on your favorite lap (I only use ceramic laps for polishing corundum - another area where I hear other facetors complain that ceramics are "difficult to use". My suggestion is, if it's difficult, start learning early!) Cabbers will want to use full-diamond wheels, final-polishing at 50K or 100K. In my experience, final polish works best on harder surfaces, such as leather, phenol, or wood, though will come up eventually on softer materials.



*Outstanding Ruby specimen, un-
known locale*

Written/Compiled by Mike DeMeritt, June 2013



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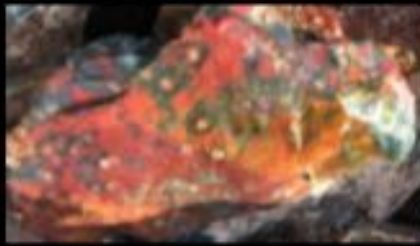
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OPLC Members should check the

Facebook page of the Old Pueblo Lapidary Club Lab Monitors Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/335450367346008>

for current lab times and days



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Alex Tai
Allan Grigg
Patsy Scully
Marshall Whitley
Dave Sidhu
Tammie Sidhu
Surbhi Patel
Russ Buhrow**

**Nicole Cowdrey
Shawn Lamastes
Cia Romano
Karen Villeneuve
Madeline Ramsey
Sara Shannon
Holly Minniti
Jane Morris**

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: This month I have replaced the Lab Schedule with the Covid Lab Schedule. I will replace the original in either August or September. Sorry for any confusion - I just want to get everything correct with the original.

Thanks, Mike

DONATIONS

The following donations were received this month:

NO DONATIONS THIS MONTH

**Thank you to all that have made donations to help keep this club running!
We are still receiving donations if you have lapidary related items. Please contact
Dave Richardson at 520-245-2172 to arrange a pickup or drop-off.**

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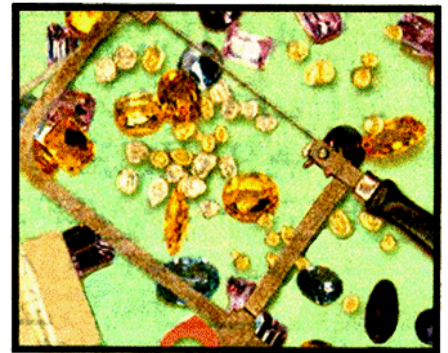
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MONEY SAVING DISCOUNTS

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3401 Dodge Blvd, Tucson
- **Colorwright** - (928) 862-4120, Web address: <http://www.color-wright.com/>, **MAILING ADDRESS:** . 2160 Shelby Road, Suite 101, Sedona AZ 86336. 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. 520-461-1350 - **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

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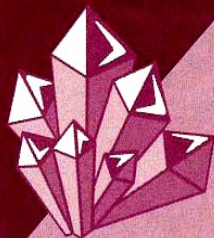
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John Poole 777-5588

SILENT AUCTION

Dave Richardson 245-2172

BUSINESS MEETING REFRESHMENTS

Twink Monrad 297-9454

Victoria Fila 664-0302

SILENT AUCTION

Dave Richardson 245-2172

NEWSLETTER

Mike DeMeritt (520) 455-5378

Current Lab Sessions as of 06/01/2021

Lab Sessions to be Re-Opened on a Limited Basis (be sure to read the rules before calling)

Cabbing:

Monday, 6 - 9 pm, Monitor: Donovan Wagner, (520) 869-2050

Tuesday, 9 -12 am, Call for dates. Monitor: Dan Lilly, (801) 995-9692

Tuesday, 3:30 – 6 pm, Leave message on phone. Monitor: Margarette Harris (520) 561-2315

Wednesday, 9 - 12 am, Monitor: Mark Davidson, (520) 975-6075

Wednesday: 6 - 9 pm, Monitor: Keith Haubert, (520) 784-8283

Thursday: 6 - 9 pm, Monitor: Tom Tuten, (803) 260-5423

Friday: 9-12 am, Monitor: David Schulte, (520) 954-8554

Saturday: 9:30 am - 2:30 pm, Call for dates. Monitor: Victoria Fila (520) 664-0302

Sunday: 10 am - 2 pm, Monitor: Gloria Shenanaquet, (520) 396-9715

Silver:

Tuesday 9 -12 am, Monitor: John Poole, (520) 555-7788

Wednesday 9 am - 1 pm, Monitor: Dennis Murphy, (520) 490-9188

Thursday 6pm - 9pm, Monitor. Bill Cascio

Friday 9 - 12 am, Monitor: Kim Knebel, (520) 873-8990

Saturday 9 am - 2 pm, Monitor: Jamie Germaine, (520) 288-0315

Casting:

Tuesday 9 -12 am, Monitor: Liz Williams, (818) 300-5262

Wednesday 4 - 7 pm, Monitor: Chuck Lundstrom (520) 241-9262

Faceting:

Monday 9:00 - 12:00 am, Monitor: Dave Richardson, (520) 245-2172

Monday 1:00 - 4:00 pm, Monitor: Dave Richardson, (520) 245-2172

Monday 6:00 - 9:00 pm, Monitor: Rick Franz, (520) 401-6414

Wednesday 6:00 – 9:00 pm, Monitor: Dave Richardson, (520) 245-2172

Saw Room:

Call Mark Gibson (520) 297-4412 or Pete Peterson (520) 886-9021

For cutting times and procedures.

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club
 (Cutting Remarks - July 2021)
 3118 N. Dale
 Tucson, AZ 85712
 (520) 323-9154

OPLC Membership Application
Complete form can be downloaded at: lapidaryclub.org/join_us.shtml

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Local Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip Code _____ Phone number (____) _____

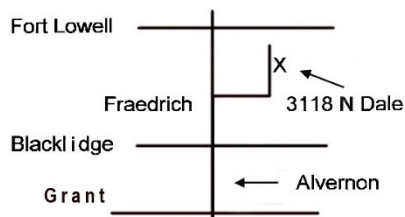
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Type of membership:	<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>Annual Renewals</u>
Single Member	\$30.00	\$23.00	\$16.00	\$11.00	\$25.00
Couple (same address)	\$40.00	\$30.00	\$23.00	\$16.00	\$30.00
Junior	\$14.50	\$11.00	\$9.00	\$6.00	\$12.00

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.