

“CUTTING REMARKS”

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

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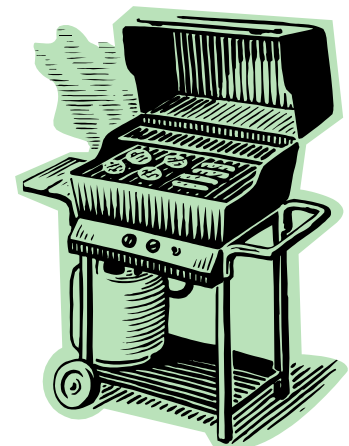
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Please join us **June 8th** at 9 am for the monthly meeting. There is an optional social hour that begins at 8 am followed by an educational program that begins at 9 am, followed by the meeting. Visitors are always welcome!



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. Submission deadline is the 20th of each month. Thanks!

THE PREZ SEZ by John Poole



June is here, hope everyone had a great Memorial Day!

As I mentioned at the May meeting, Wolfgang Mueller will be our guest speaker at our upcoming June meeting. Wolfgang is an OPLC member and retired geologist. His program will be about Arizona gemstones, and based on an article he wrote for Rocks & Minerals magazine, issue January 2012. An added bonus will be a separate raffle of two gem stones he has cut! It will be a great

program so don't miss it, and some great treats and fellowship beforehand.

May's raffle netted the club \$119.00. Don't forget, if you wear your OPLC nametag, you will get a free raffle ticket with a purchase.

See you at the June 8th meeting, or stop by the Silver Shop any Tuesday from 9am—12noon.

-John

June Program: ARIZONA GEMSTONES

Presented by Wolfgang Mueller

Our fellow OPLC member Wolfgang Mueller will present a program he gave as part of the Centennial Celebration at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show in 2012. The program contents were also put into an article that appeared in the Feb 2012 special issue of Rocks and Minerals magazine. Wolfgang, a geologist, and his wife Diana, a jewelry maker, have been collecting minerals for many years and are using their lapidary skills to create unique jewelry, cabochons, and spheres. Check out their creations on their website www.diwolf.com. In addition to the visual presentation, they will have a variety of the stones they have cut and polished, as well as some samples of rough, for viewing. As an added bonus, they are donating 2 stones for door prizes!!

BE SURE TO ATTEND THIS VERY SPECIAL PRESENTATION!!

Noteworthy News

OPLC Member **Helen Serras-Herman** was recognized for her excellent lapidary work in the 2013 AGTA PRISM volume 2 magazine. Be sure to check out this issue online! Just insert this link in your browser: <http://www.agta.org/pressroom/prism.html>, then click on the image on the right of PRISM volume 2, and flip the book to pages 22-23.

Congratulations, Helen!

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



President Poole opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. and proceeded directly with the business part of the meeting, as we did not have a program scheduled for today.

Murray Hiller gave his report on the Pima County Fair, thanking all those who participated in manning the club booth. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

John gave a brief report on the OPLC finances.

Treasurer Mark Gibson was on vacation.

Shiela Powell gave the educational report on her visit to Mission View Elementary School. All of the children who participated were given minerals to take home. It was a very enjoyable day. We have received "Thank You Notes" from schools we sent boxes of minerals to. The teachers signed up to receive them at the Pima County Fair.

It was determined that no field trips were or would be planned until after the summer heat has passed.

Norma Lackow needs volunteers for the August meeting to provide refreshments so if you can help, please contact Norma at 742-7561.

Membership chair Wayne Klement announced we had 288 members. We also

gained some new members from our presence at the Pima County Fair.

Our July program will feature Wolfgang Mueller, a club member and geologist.

Everything is A-OK for grounds and safety.

Pete Peterson, our club advisor, reported on the cleanup, as John Poole appointed him coordinator. The coolers were repaired and serviced, the kitchen cleaned, windows washed, floors mopped, and the trap outside the building cleaned out. We still need a copper line replaced on one of the coolers. Those who participated in the cleanup were Twink Monrad, Skip and Jean Barkley, John and Melinda Thompson, John Mark, Don Morin, Ruby Munson and Pete and Ginny Peterson.

We will not be able to have wire wrapping classes as our teacher is out of the country at this time.

John Poole will give tours of the facilities after the meeting.

Phil Babcock is celebrating his 80th birthday today. Happy birthday Phil!

The door prize was won by Phil Madson. John adjourned the meeting.

Pat McMullen, Acting Secretary

It takes a long time
to become young.
-Pablo Picasso

Collecting Rocks

I think that there shall never be
An ignoramus such as me,
Who roams the hills throughout the day,
To pick up rocks that do not pay!
For there is something I've been told
I took the rock and left the gold.
Over desert wild and mountain blue,
I search for rock of varied hue.
A hundred pounds or more I pack,
With blistered feet and aching back.
And after this is said and done,
I cannot name a single one.
I pick up rocks each place I go,
The reason why I do not know.
For rocks are found by fools like me,
Where God intended them to be.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Linda Alexander
Roni Bader-Tables
Shawn Fallin, Jr.
Scott Gibson
Dominick Hansel
Ed Jones

Christina Mace
William Martin
Bill Parson
Alvina Polansky
Emily Pormann

JUNE GEMSTONE: ALEXANDRITE

June's birthstone could easily be derived from Gemini's twins: it sports a birthstone possessed of not simply one color, but two! Meet **Alexandrite**, the color-changing version of the gemstone **Chrysoberyl**. Depending on the wavelength of the light entering it, this stone displays as either red or green, two colors at polar opposites on the color wheel!

Chrysoberyl, chemical formula BeAl_2O_4 , commonly occurs as orthorhombic crystals, typically tabular parallel to the {001} plane (the basal plane), with striations parallel to the *a* axis. Twinning on the {130} (rhombic plane) is quite common, and often repeated to form pseudo-hexagonal trillings (often referred to in Chrysoberyl as "sixlings" - the picture of rough crystals below very well demonstrates this behavior, with an easily-seen "sixling" noticeable near the upper-right of the group...) Cleavage is distinct on the {110} plane, and indistinct on {010}. Hardness is an impressive 8.5 on the Moh's scale, making this stone rate third in hardness only after diamond and corundum for typical gems. It is transparent and has a vitreous luster. Color is green to yellowish-green or brownish, and can alternate between green and red, in the case of Alexandrite.



Fine-gem quality faceted Alexandrite showing both indoor (incandescent) and outdoor (full-spectrum) colors.

Chrysoberyl has a crystal structure very similar to olivine, in which Be replaces the tetrahedrally-coordinated Si, and Al replaces the octahedrally-coordinated Mg. O ions form an almost-hexagonal closest packing of spheres, which explains the pseudo-hexagonal character of Chrysoberyl. Chromium replacing Mg is the chromophore responsible for the ability to change color. In truth, most Chrysoberyl only displays a mild color-shift (perhaps greenish-yellow to brownish-yellow or orangish). Very occasionally, however, the effect is dramatic, with the stone displaying a green or teal color daylight, and a red or purplish-red color in tungsten or incandescent light. These are the only stones that should be truly labeled as Alexandrite. Many chrysoberyl crystals display excellent chatoyance, and are cut by lapidaries as "cat's-eye" stones. This habit is so common and well-presented by chrysoberyl, that most gemologists refer to cat's-eye-Chrysoberyl stones simply as "Cat's-eye".



Natural "sixling" Chrysoberyl crystal group with Alexandrite coloration.

Russia.

Pearls and moonstone are also gemstones for June, though neither holds the provenance of the "King of Gems", Alexandrite.

Written/Compiled by Mike DeMeritt, June 2013

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Ad Expires June 2013

The afternoon knows what the morning never suspected.

-Swedish Proverb

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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**
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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 **2801 South Kinney Road, Tucson**
- **Arizona Lapidary** - 10% discount for OPLC members. See ad in this issue. 520-399-6641
4699 E Pima St, 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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Dan Harmsen 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 - Mike DeMeritt 203-8430

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

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

1PM - 4PM **Faceting***
Monitor - Mike DeMeritt 203-8430

6PM - 9PM **Silversmithing**
Monitor - Billy Bob Riley 225-9060

Wednesdays

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

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

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

6PM - 9PM **Faceting***
Monitor—Billy Bob Riley 225-9060

Thursdays

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

Fridays

9AM - 12PM **Cabbing**
Monitor - **Mike DeMeritt 203-8430**

(NOTE: Mike DeMeritt is now the MONITOR)

Saturdays

8AM - 12PM **Rock Sawing**
Monitor - Jim Griffin

10AM - 3PM **Silversmithing**
Monitor - Terry Cox 296-4949

10AM - 3PM **Cabbing**
Monitor - Billy Bob Riley 225-9060

*** INSTRUCTION PROVIDED AS
AVAILABLE, MAY REQUIRE DOUBLE-
PUNCHED HOURS**



Charles Reece: Grit, Dop Wax, Tumbling Pellets, Tumbling Stones, Dop Sticks

To donate to OPLC, just see or contact Dan Harmsen at 721-8452.

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club
 (Cutting Remarks - June 2013)
 3118 N. Dale
 Tucson, AZ 85712
 (520) 323-9154

OPLC Membership Application - Please Print

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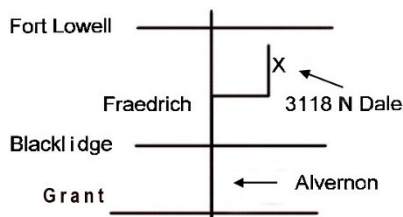
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Summer Address _____

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 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.