

“CUTTING REMARKS”

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

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Please join us **March 2nd**
at 9:00 AM for the
monthly meeting. There
is an optional social
hour that begins at 8:00
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!



February was a full month at the Club. Shops were busy and talk of the Gem Show was bantered about, what and where this or that was to be found, it sure was a fun time.

The Faceter's Seminar, February 8th, had about 70 participants from far and wide. Roger Dery, of Spectral Gems Inc., one of the presenters, asked if OPLC would be interested in expanding the program next year. I asked that he send me a proposal to present to the Board of Directors. I personally think it would be great PR for the Club. The Hob Nob, on February 9th, went smoothly, thanks to Chairperson Diana Hara and her small army of volunteers. We had 80 registered guests and made a little money. Diana will give us a full report on the first Saturday in March at the monthly meeting.

Our booth at the Tucson Gem & Mineral Society Show at the TCC was set up February 13th by myself, Pete Petersen, Billy Bob Riley, and Claire O'Donnell. Our new Genie, a gift from Diamond Pacific, took center-stage. Ron Davidson made a small display showing rock, slab, and progression to finished cabochon. Billy Bob did one for faceting, showing all phases from rough to finished stone. Thanks, guys! Many people stopped at our booth, and

we even picked up a couple of new members. And the kids were thrilled with the free rocks.

The County Fair in April is soon upon us. Murray Hiller is the Chairperson and will have a sign-up sheet for volunteers at the March meeting. The fair is another opportunity for us to meet the public and show them the many activities that are available to club members. It is a fun time interacting with young and old.

Sometimes Club members forget that OPLC's mission is the maintenance, development, and improvement of the lapidary and associated arts. So, not only are we telling and showing people about our great club, increasing the community's awareness of our presence, but also fulfilling our mission of education.

I hope some of our members who found great treasures at the Gem Show will bring them to our March meeting for an informal show and tell.

- John

MARCH BIRTHSTONE: AQUAMARINE

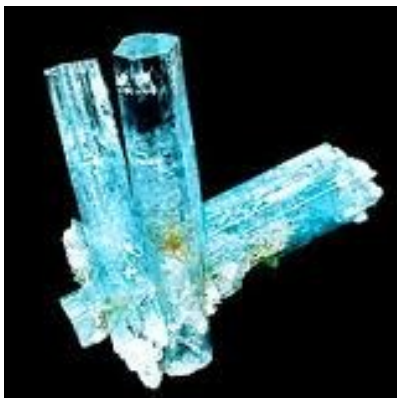
People born in March are proud to show off their birthstone: the beautiful and subtle birthstone **Aquamarine**, a greenish-blue variety of the cyclosilicate *Beryl*. In cyclosilicates the $[\text{SiO}_4]$ tetrahedral are linked together to form rings. The Si:O ratio in the silicate part of the formula is always 1:3, e.g. Si_3O_9 , or Si_6O_{18} . The symmetry of the rings is normally reflected in the crystal symmetry, as in the case of beryl, which has $[\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{18}]$ rings and is therefore hexagonal. Crystals are commonly found in the simple prismatic form, and less commonly with several crystal forms. Prism faces are often vertically striated or grooved. They can be larger than 200 metric tons, and sometimes form as columnar aggregates. Cleavage is indistinct on the basal plane $[0001]$, and fracture is conchoidal or uneven. Hardness varies from 7.45—8.0 on the Moh's scale, and density is about 2.7. It has a vitreous luster, is transparent to translucent, and large crystals can vary in transparency. As noted previously, the crystal structure of beryl is characterized by sixfold rings of $[\text{SiO}_4]$ tetrahedral, linked by Beryllium $[\text{BeO}_4]$ tetrahedral and Aluminum $\{\text{AlO}_6\}$ octahedral; the $[\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{18}]$ rings lie on top of each other, and thus form endless channels along the *c* axis of the crystal. Minor amounts of Li, Na, or other alkali metals can be present, which like H_2O and CO_2 can be accommodated in the channels. Small amounts of Cr^{3+} , Mn^{2+} , or other transition elements give rise to color caused by these impurities. In aquamarine, ferric $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]$ and ferrous iron $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$ are the impurities which impart the lovely color: Fe^{2+} causes blue, and Fe^{3+} imbues a yellow hue. The mixture of the two causes the seawater color. Most aquamarine stones are heated in the rough to drive off the Fe^{3+} (the yellow component), so that the stones maintain as saturated a blue hue as possible. This is done to probably more than 95% of all aquamarines, which puts this stone in the same category as Tanzanite in a fashion - most of the "natural" stones out there actually aren't natural! Aquamarine is a common mineral, primarily occurring in granites and granitic pegmatites. Other forms of beryl can be found in mica-schists and in veins in bituminous limestone.



Aquamarine is found all over the world, and important gem deposits include Minas Gerais, Brazil; Mozambique; Nigeria, Zambia; Pakistan; and a few other African deposits. Aquamarine rough is among the easiest of all facet rough to procure, though prices have been steadily escalating since the 1990's. Top-clarity, top-color, and larger-sized pieces are out there, but substantially more difficult to locate than more typical pieces. Most aqua is very lightly-toned, and



Top Aqua rough from Santa Maria



Aquamarine Crystal Group

darker pieces tend to have fairly grey masking. If you can find it, rough from Santa Maria, Brazil, is very dark for aqua (40% tone or better), and rarely displays the grey mask that makes faceters cringe. Aquamarine tends to have good "crystal" in switching from outdoor to incandescent lighting, though it is definitely a "nightstone" (prefers incandescent). Aquamarine is incredibly easy to facet, and presents few problems for the novice. In smaller pieces of lighter-toned material, it is very inexpensive (compared to other facet rough, anyway!) Don't scrimp on clarity - most aqua rough is very clean, and inclusions lower the price.

FACETING HOB NOB



Jim Clark presenting Jim Rambur his plaque for winning the Synthetic Stone category. Way to go, Jim!

Jim Clark presenting Viktor Tuzlukov his plaque for winning the Natural Stone category. Good job, Viktor!



Presenter Bruce Jones with his seminar on identification of gemstones. I heard it was excellent.

Faceters socializing at the Hob Nob. Great mix of people!



How To Kill Your Club In 13 Easy Steps

1. Stay away from meetings.
2. If you do come, find fault.
3. Decline office or appointment to a committee.
4. Get sore if you are not nominated, appointed or when you feel "snubbed" by another member.
5. After you are named to a committee, don't attend meetings.
6. If you do get to a meeting, clam up until it's over, THEN tell them how things should really be done.
7. Don't do any work if you can help it. and when the "old reliables" pitch in, accuse them of being in a clique.
8. Oppose all meetings and seminars as being a waste of time and members' money.
9. When there's a lot of business to discuss at the meetings - take up meeting time by complaining.
10. Never accept a place at the head of the table. You might learn something new.
11. If you aren't asked to sit there, get angry and threaten to resign because you are not appreciated.
12. Don't pay your dues on time, let the executives sweat. After all, they wrote the budget and write the checks.
13. Read your mail only now and then. Put the club bulletin aside, there isn't anything in it anyway.

...And How To Resurrect An Ailing Club

1. Decide to take part in all you can. You've always planned to do more, do it now while there's someone left to do it with.
2. Offer to share your skills and expertise by putting on a "hands on" program or "Rock-Of-The-Month" show-and-tell.
3. Consider your contribution in absolute terms. What will you gain and what can you give. (Ignore comparisons to the contributions of others - their situations, money, health and interests will be different).
4. Lead by example. It's much more effective than describing a course of action you can't yourself follow.
5. Offer to do a program at a local school and invite kids to come to your meeting or workshop.
6. Remember, criticism of others invites criticism of one's self. Only the "noblest Romans" can bear such scrutiny.
7. If you can't say something nice, shut up and let others talk. Kind words and good deeds can go anyplace, gossip easily finds its way home.

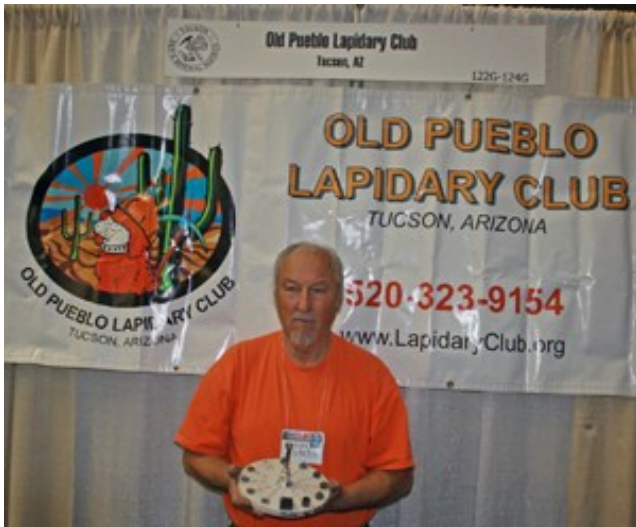
Let's all work together to help make ours a fantastic Gem & Mineral Club!

from: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Sep 2000

via Timpanagos Gem and Mineral Society Rock Chips July 2012

TGMS SHOW AT THE TCC

The TGMS show went off with few, if any, hitches this year. We had excellent demonstrators and many exciting things to show all the interested folks. A big thanks goes out to all of the volunteers who lent their time and effort to help our club continue to be seen and be appreciated. Apparently, we even picked up a few new members! Great job, everybody!



Billy Bob Riley showing the progression of a stone from completely rough to fully-faceted gemstone. The perfect gentleman for a demonstration booth!

Jim Martin and Shiela Powell manning the booth at the 2013 TGMS Show



Old Pueblo Lapidary Club members “hard at work” educating the public about our club.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Sandy Clover
Chris Percherke
Steven Moliner-Colvin

Marla Pesquiera
Tomas Smith
Rob Guillot

*When we live in awareness, we can
See miracles everywhere.*

Thich Nhat Hann

BEAD-STRINGING CLASS OFFERED

Jenny Coniglio will have a short class in stringing beads immediately after the March 2 meeting. The class will cover how to attach a clasp, types of wire or string to use, tools, etc. It will last about 1 1/2 hours, and the cost is \$5. Call Jenny at 400-6057 for more information.

OPLC SHIRTS

Don't forget that there are OPLC T-shirts for sale in both long and short-sleeved versions! Long-sleeved shirts are \$15, and short-sleeved shirts are \$12. What a bargain! And all proceeds benefit the club. Be sure to show your appreciation and pick one (or two!) up!

Thanks, everybody!



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BETA IS BETTER!

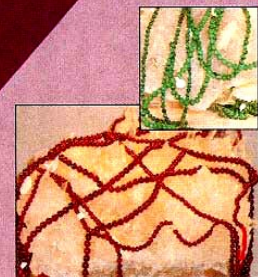
Beta Diamond Products, Inc has been providing diamond abrasive consumables for lapping and polishing since 1986, specializing in diamond powder, compound, spray, aluminum oxide (linde A, B, C), cerium oxide, silicon, carbide, boron carbide, discs, and more. We supply industry, government, universities, faceters and hobbyists with excellent quality, delivery, service and price.



Ad Expires June 2013

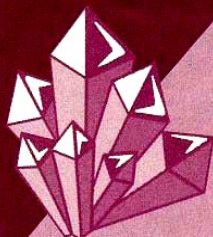
DAH ROCK SHOP

- Crystals
- Fossils
- Minerals
- Meteorites
- Faceted Stones
- Cabochons
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 104 DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF SEMI-PRECIOUS STONE BEADS

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 STERLING SILVER JEWELRY -
 BOOKS - SLABS - ROUGH
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**HOURS: (TUES - SAT 9:30 - 5:30
 (CLOSED SUN & MON))**

**OPLC MEMBERS RECEIVE 10%
 OFF ON ALL MERCHANDISE
 EXCEPT SPECIALS.
 STERLING SILVER WIRES AND
 SHEET RECEIVE THE NEXT PRICE
 BREAK**

Ad Expires March 2013

MONEY SAVING DISCOUNTS

- **DAH Rock Shop** - 10% on most items. See ad in this issue. 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 (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
2801 South Kinney Road, 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
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1/4 of horizontal page -
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1/2 page - 4 1/2" H by 7 1/4" W
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Full page - 9 1/2" H by 7 1/4" W
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Dave Arens 749-2413

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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

Wayne Klement 954-6298

SECURITY

Ron Davidson 749-3157

SILENT AUCTION

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 - Billy Bob Riley

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

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

6PM - 9PM **Silversmithing**
Monitor - Terry Cox 296-4949

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

Thursdays

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

Fridays

9AM - 12PM **Cabbing**
Monitor - Danny Harmsen 721-8452

Saturdays

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

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

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

Sundays

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

12PM - 4 PM **Rock Sawing (As Available)**
Monitor—Mike DeMeritt 203-8430

***(INSTRUCTION PROVIDED AS AVAILABLE)**



Rosemary Carmody - 50-cup coffee urn

Ted Rupp - Slabs

Dave Witwer - Flat of Dugway, UT geodes

Barbara Alrick - Slabs, Marramumba Tiger Eye

Diamond Pacific Inc. President Bill Depue - Donated a brand-new Genie Gem-Maker! From all of us, "Thanks, Bill!"

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

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club
 (Cutting Remarks - Mar 2013)
 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 (____) _____

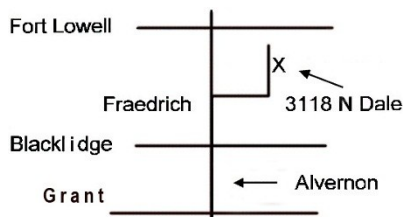
Email address _____ Summer Dates: From _____ To _____

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 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.