

# “CUTTING REMARKS”

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

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Please join us March 9th 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](mailto:silverlininggemstones@gmail.com)), or feel free to call him at 520-455-5378 or (520) 240-5133. Submission deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Thanks!

# THE PREZ SEZ ..... by David Schulte



3/3/19

It's finally starting to get a little warmer now that our Tucson snow storm season has passed. Who would have believed that it would snow that much in Tucson? Our next business board meeting will be held on Friday, March 1st in the main building at the club at 10 AM. As always, members are invited to attend and encouraged to participate in the board meetings and discussions.

Bob Powell is collecting items to be displayed at the County Fair that you all have made or could have made at the club. If you're interested in showing off your work, please see Bob or John Poole and give them the pieces that you would like to enter in the show. Showing all the cool stuff that we make at the club gets folks interested in joining us at the club. It can be a finished jewelry piece, a cab, a faceted stone, a casting or anything that could have been made at the club. Bob is still looking for a few volunteers to man our booth at the fair and the sign-up sheet is on the board in the kitchen in the main building. The sign up will be closed on Saturday after the club membership meeting as Bob is already late in submitting names to the county fair folks.

The OPLC March tailgate sale will be held on March 9<sup>th</sup> right after the club member meeting. Bring your jewelry, cabs, rough, tools and whatever else you might have to sell and set up in the parking lot. Sales will NOT start until after the club meeting. See the notice in the body of this news letter for more information.

We have a new 24-inch saw in the big saw room. We are auctioning off the old saw that this one replaced. It needs a little TLC to get it up and running but we are offering the starting bid at \$200 and the highest bidder gets the saw. Please see Pete Peterson, John Poole, Mike Tucker or me if you are interested in bidding on the saw. The bidding will end in two weeks and the highest bid gets the saw.

Dave Richardson and Mike Rose have installed a new "floating" floor in the faceting lab. That along with the new tabletops has made a huge difference in the lab. Thanks to Dave and Mike for all their hard work. If you get a chance swing by the lab and check it out!

Thanks to Gloria Jean, Dave Richardson, Billy Bob Riley and all the other folks that volunteered their time at the

Hob Nob this year!!! We made almost \$500 along with a generous donation once again from Farooq Hashmi. Gloria will thanks all the folks that participated at our next club meeting.

Thanks to Tom Tuten for putting in a matching time request to his company, Freeport McMoran Foundation. His company matched his time donation with a cash donation of \$500! I don't know if any other companies do this type of match, but if you volunteer your time you might want to see if your company is as generous as Freeport. Thanks also to Mark Gibson for installing the new baluster in the kitchen area so that we can all see again in there.

We have a new twenty ton press in the silver lab ready for your use. We bought one with a gauge on it from Kevin Potter so you can now get more repeatable press tonnage applied to your dies. Come a check it out!

Are You a Facetor? Do You Like Challenges? Do You Like Winning?

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club was well known for its faceting members and their award winning gemstones. In 2020 the Australian Facetors Guild is hosting the International Faceting Challenge. Because of our heritage of award winning gems we have been requested by the US Facetors Guild to resurrect the OLPC spirit in competition cutting gemstones and join the USA team. The website for the competition is <https://www.facetorsguild.com.au/2020-IFC-Competition>. Jeff Theesfold is the USA coordinator for this event. He can be reached at ph. (505) 412-8033 or email: [theesfish@msn.com](mailto:theesfish@msn.com). Locally Dave Richardson (520-245-2172 or the OPLC Faceting Lab) can help answer questions. Please consider becoming active competitively and help revive OPLC faceting.

We haven't been getting much in the way of donations for a last couple of month. Please remember that we welcome any and all donations to the club AND we'll give you a tax receipt so you can claim them on your taxes. The donations are a big part of how the club runs and are used in making up the table offerings during the silent auction which is our biggest money maker every year. If you have anything dealing with lapidary that you would like to donate, we'll come and pick it up! Just let Dave Richardson know and we'll set up a time!

David

**Front Cover Pictures:** March's birthstone is the greenish-blue variety of beryl known as **Aquamarine**; **Pectolite** with the trade name "**Larimar**" will cut an entire suite of beautiful cabochons!

*Cutting Remarks*, Volume 2019, Issue 3, March 2019. Published monthly by the Old Pueblo Lapidary Club, 3118 N. Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712. Telephone: (520) 323-9154, a non-profit organization.

## OLD PUEBLO LAPIDARY CLUB

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING, Feb 3, 2019

Secretary, William Penrose,  
[wrp0143@comcast.net](mailto:wrp0143@comcast.net), 520-780-1143

### Highlights:

- Wolfgang Mueller will speak at the March meeting "Arizona Gemstones."
- The March meeting will be followed by a trunk sale in the north parking lot.
- About 200+ members still owe 2019 dues or must sign the liability statement.

The casting and faceting labs are back in full operation.

The speaker at this month's meeting was Luis Alberto Quispe Aparicio, from Peru, who shared photos of his beautiful and distinctive gem sculptures.

Refreshments for this meeting were provided a club member. Volunteers to supply refreshments for future meetings should contact Leia Ballard 780-8641, email: [5grandsons53@gmail.com](mailto:5grandsons53@gmail.com). Up to \$40 will be reimbursed.

Minutes from last month's meeting were not published due to the earlier date of the meeting and could not be approved by the membership at this meeting.

Financial – (Pat Droll) The Club's financial assets stood at \$(undisclosed) as of January 31. \$(undisclosed) of that is in the form of CDs. The club's financial outlook is strong.

Membership (Jan Keisler) – There are 283 members in good standing. Some have not signed the liability statement on the application and cannot use the labs until that is signed. The 2019 dues schedule is now in force.

Programs for 2019 – Helen Serras-Herman confirmed that we have a nearly full schedule of speakers for the current year.

Field trips – (Victoria Fila) Two sites are being checked out for suitability. In March, a trip is planned to the Red Cloud Mine north of Yuma (Google 'red cloud mine'), and in April, to Round Mountain, between Duncan, AZ, and Lordsburg, NM.

Library (Bill Cascio) – Half the books are catalogued and the library is open for loans.

Trunk sale --The March meeting will be followed by a trunk sale in the north parking lot. Do not use the north lot unless you are selling.

Faceting Lab (Dave Richardson) – The lab tables have been raised and refinished. The old carpeting has been removed. Key figures in the lab overhaul have been Dave Richardson, Billy Bob Riley, Mike Rose, Randy Hirsch, and Malcolm Currie. The Faceter's Frolic and the Hob Nob will be held next week, Feb 7 to 9. This is a widely known event associated with the Gem Show and is held every year. Rough and finished material will be for sale.

(Continued on page 7)

## March, 2019 OPLC Speaker: Wolfgang Mueller



We are very fortunate to continue our New Year 2019 with another wonderful lapidary, geologist and mineral collector, our very own OPLC member, Wolfgang Mueller who will be our speaker for our March, 2019 OPLC monthly meeting. His talk will be: **A Visit to Wulfenite and Vanadinite Localities of the Southwest.**

Wolfgang's talk is very timely, after exhibiting his self-collected wulfenite specimen from California in a competitive case exhibit at the 2019 Tucson Gem & Mineral Society Show, and winning a best-of-class award for his specimen!

Through images and telling tales, he will try to explain why these minerals are so popular and so exciting to collect. Why a climb from the 1200 level to the 400 level of a mine at 4:00am is no big deal. He will also explain in depth why and where wulfenite is found.

Wolfgang Mueller was born in 1942 in the same town (Belgrade) as the person for whom Wulfenite is named after- Franz Wulfen, a Jesuit born in 1725. He has a Bachelors and Masters degree in geology from the University of California, in Riverside. He worked at Magma Copper in San Manuel and their corporate entity Newmont Exploration in Danbury, Connecticut. Wolfgang moved back to Arizona, to Oracle, some 22 years ago and loves going out rockhounding and collecting minerals. He can still swing a 20lb sledgehammer! He and his wife Diana are the lapidary and jewelry forces behind their company *DiWolf*, famous for their eggs and spheres, exhibiting in several gem & mineral shows.

Please do not miss this presentation! Come and congratulate Wolfgang for his win!  
Looking forward to seeing all of you, Helen Serras-Herman, OPLC Program Chair



## OPLC 2019 Speakers Forecast

Wolfgang Mueller, “A Visit to Wulfenite and Vanadinite Localities of the Southwest (March 9, 2019)

Gregory McNamee, “Monumental Places: National Parks & Monuments in the Grand Canyon State (May 11, 2019)

Les Presmyk, “U of A Gem & Mineral Museum” (June 8, 2019)

Stan Hart, “Origin, Age & Evolution of Earth” (September 14, 2019)

Larry Fellows, “Pompeii & Vesuvius” (October 12, 2019)

Jim Turner, “Zuni Fetishes & Carvings” (November 9, 2019)

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

### MARCH TAILGATE SALE

- **Tailgate Sale - WILL NOT START UNTIL AFTER THE MEETING!**
  - **OPLC Members Only!**
- **Items for sale - MUST be related to the lapidary or metalsmithing arts, or OPLC activities!**
- **Parking for Participants - North Lot, FROM 8:00 AM - 8:30 AM ONLY!**
- **The North Parking Lot WILL be open to monitors working that day!**
  - **After 8:30 am, the North Parking Lot will then be open to the General Membership**

**Again, the Tailgate Sale WILL NOT START until after the meeting is over!**

## 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.  $\text{Si}_3\text{O}_9$ , or  $\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{18}$ . 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  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{CO}_2$  can be accommodated in the channels. Small amounts of  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ , 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:  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  causes blue, and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  imbues a yellow hue. The mixture of the two causes the sea-water color. Most aquamarine stones are heated in the rough to drive off the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (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 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.

*Written/Compiled by Mike DeMeritt, March 2013*



Trilliant-cut Mozambique Aquamarine



Top Aqua rough from Santa Maria, Brazil



Aquamarine Crystal Group

Casting Lab (Liz Williams) – Liz will be beginning casting classes this month (Feb). Chuck Lindstrom, returned from California, will be doing casting and investments on the second and third Saturdays of each month. We expect to being broom and salt casting soon.

Silver Lab (John Poole) – The shear tool was damaged last month by misuse and is being repaired. After this, use of the shear must be regulated by the monitor in the silver class who will unlock it, observe its use, and re-lock it again afterward.

Terry Paulsen will begin chain making classes in the silver lab beginning Feb 20, 1-4 pm.

A new 20 ton jack is being purchased to replace the worn out one.

Saw Room (Pete Peterson) – A new 24 inch saw has been ordered and should be delivered during the Gem Show. Current cost of sawing is 20 cents per square inch.

The old 20 inch saw is repairable, but will be sold while it still has value. The minimum bid is \$200.

A 55 gallon drum of saw oil is to be delivered next week.

Cabbing Lab (Dave Schulte) – Repair parts sent by Highland Park for one of our trim saws are the wrong parts and the correct parts are back ordered several months.

Gem Show – OPLC has a booth on the Mezzanine Floor of the Convention Center during the public show on Feb 14 to 17. Items for display are still being accepted, up to three items per member.

County Fair – Names of volunteers to tend our tables at the County Fair are needed ASAP. Signup sheets are in the kitchen. The lead time on submitting names is very long, so please sign up without delay. Volunteers get free admission to the Fair, plus parking. Our tables are in air-conditioned space shared by other interest clubs.

Silent Auction (Dave Richardson) – Donations are being accepted in the way of tools, rocks, books, etc. Receipts for tax purposes will be issued. We are also seeking working vacuum cleaners for the labs and rolling office-style chairs for the faceting lab. Dave's number is 245-2172, email dlrichard11@yahoo.com

Aluminum Recycling (Dave Schulte) – Recycling facilities are no longer accepting crushed cans, as scavengers have been putting sand and rocks in the cans before crushing. Please keep bringing cans in to the lab; the money earned is significant.

Meeting Room (Dave Schulte) – The Board agreed to rent out the meeting room to a wood carving club on one Saturday a month. This is subject to restrictions. They will use the south parking lot, and they must furnish a certificate of insurance for their members and to cover any damage done.

The website has been updated to include current lab times and monitors.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



**Maryteja Liljestrand**

**Kim Knebel**

**Debra Balliard**

**Linda Rostedt**

**Lisa McCool**

**Vickie Leahy**

**Joe Nation**

**Lance Tripoli**

**Kerry Towe**

**Sarah Mountain**

**Luke Perry**

**Sylvie Laughlin**

### Red Cloud Mine trip near Yuma

Date: 3/22/19

Meet time: 9:00 am

Meeting place: Denny's at exit 2 in Yuma.

**Price: \$25.00 per person cash only. Children under 12 free with a paying adult.**

**Collecting: Wulfenite Vanadinite, willemite and fluorescent minerals Other minerals have been found here. This is a great trip anyone specially those just starting a collection and wants some Red Cloud specimen. Will be collecting in the dump area and in the pit.**

**There will specimens of wulfenite for sale cash only**

**Tools needed:**

**Collecting buckets/boxes egg cartons for small specimens. Tissue paper to wrap.**

**Plenty of water**

**Lunch**

**Sun screen**

**Rock hammer and chisel**

**Sledgehammer for larger rocks**

**Best to wear boots**

**High clearance vehicle/4x4**



**No Donations this month!**

**To donate to OPLC, just contact Dave Richardson at (520) 245-2172.**





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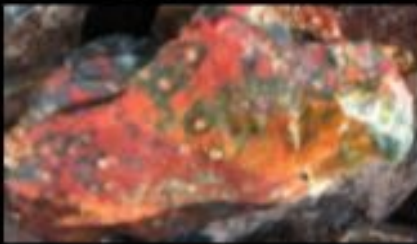
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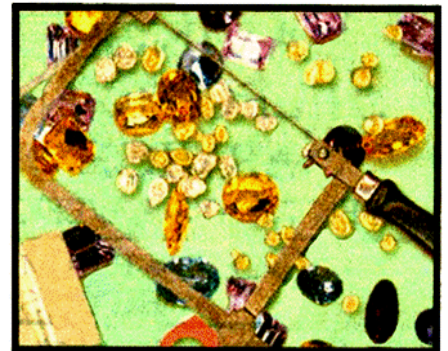
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- **Jay's of Tucson** - 30% discount excluding orange tag items, sterling silver sheet and wire. 520-323-1123 (**4813 E Speedway in Pinecrest Center**)  
**4627 E Speedway, Tucson**
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- **Silver Lining 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!**

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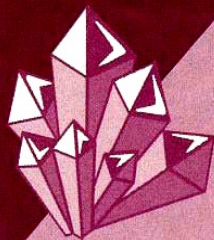


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Helen Serras-Herman 761-9907

### CLASSES

Victoria Fila 664-0302

### FIELD TRIPS (COMMITTEE)

Victoria Fila 664-0302

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(Unfilled)

### JUNIOR EDUCATION

Ron Graichen 529-2661

### KITCHEN

General Membership

### LIBRARIAN

Bill Cascio 638-8144

### MEMBERSHIP

Janet Keisler 333-3398

### SECURITY

John Poole 777-5588

### SILENT AUCTION

Dave Richardson 245-2172

### BUSINESS MEETING REFRESHMENTS

Leia Ballard 780-8641



**WEEKLY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE Phone 323-9154**

**Mondays**

9AM - Noon **Faceting Lab**  
Monitor - Dave Richardson 245-2172  
1PM - 4PM **Silversmith Lab**  
Monitor - Pat Droll 345-2792  
3:30PM - 6PM **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Margarette Harris 561-2315  
6PM - 9PM **Faceting Class**  
Monitor - Earl Zoeller 886-3518  
6PM - 9PM **Cabbing\*\***  
Monitor - Donovan Wagner 869-2050

**Tuesdays**

9AM - Noon **Cabbing\***  
Monitor - Mike DeMeritt 520-455-5378  
9AM - Noon **Silversmithing Lab**  
Monitor - John Poole 777-5588  
1PM - 4PM **Faceting Class/Open Lab**  
Monitor - Dave Richardson 245-2172  
1PM - 4PM **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Liz Williams (818)300-5262

**Wednesdays**

9AM - Noon **Cabbing**  
Monitor— Sharon Wilcox 878-8685  
9AM - 1PM **Silversmithing**  
Monitor - Dennis Murphy 490-9188  
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 - Noon **Rock Sawing**  
Monitor - Pete Petersen 886-9021  
9AM - Noon **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 **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Tom Tuten 803-260-5423

**Fridays**

9AM - Noon **Cabbing\*\***  
Monitor - David Schulte 954-8554  
9AM—Noon **Silversmithing**  
Monitor - James Germaine, 288-0135  
1PM - 4PM **Silversmithing**  
Monitor - Lou Ackerman 290-6968  
1PM - 4PM **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Pete Valentine, 208-409-7910  
6PM - 9PM **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Victoria Fila 664-0302

**Saturdays**

9AM - 2PM **Silversmithing**  
Monitor - Pat Droll 345-2792  
9AM - 2PM **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Ron Bryan 619-495-7967

**Casting Class**

Monitor - Chuck Lundstrom 241-9262  
*investing second Saturday of every month 12 - 3  
casting pore third Saturday of every month 3PM until done.  
This will not start until March 2019.*

**Sundays**

9AM - Noon **Rock Sawing**  
Monitor - Mark Gibson 297-4412  
10AM - 3PM **Silversmithing Lab**  
Monitor - Giac D'Aquisto 207-6219  
10AM - 2PM **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Gloria Jean Shevanaquet 369-7225

• **INSTRUCTION AS AVAILABLE**

\*\* **FIRST TWO MON/FRI OF EVERY MONTH IS CAB-  
OCHON CLASS, WHILE THE OTHERS ARE OPEN  
LAB**

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club  
 (Cutting Remarks - March 2019)  
 3118 N. Dale  
 Tucson, AZ 85712  
 (520) 323-9154

**OPLC Membership Application**  
**Complete form can be downloaded at: [lapidaryclub.org/join\\_us.shtml](http://lapidaryclub.org/join_us.shtml)**

Name1 \_\_\_\_\_ Name 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

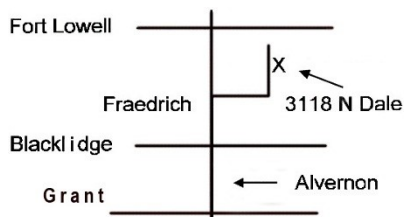
Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Summer Dates: From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

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	\$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 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.