

“CUTTING REMARKS”

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

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Please join us on May 10th
for the next monthly
meeting. Optional social
hour begins at 8:00 AM,
followed by the educational
program at 9:00 AM,
followed by the meeting at
10:00 AM.



Articles or news to be included in the *Cutting Remarks* should be emailed to your Editor, Wayne Klement (wayneklem@aol.com), or feel free to call him at 520-954-6298. Submission deadline is the 25th of each month. Thanks!

THE PREZ SEZ by Bill Carmody



I must admit the weather has been gorgeous the last couple of months. It's a beautiful time of year and also a sad time: Our northern contingency are leaving for cooler parts. We will see a lesser degree of activity around the Club facilities. But, by no means will it grind to a halt. Many of us who hang around all summer will be enjoying lapidary, smithing, casting, and faceting in air-conditioned comfort. (I hope your allergies aren't as bad as mine have been.)

The winter and spring shows and demonstrations are done for the year. We just finished up the Pima County Fair. The kids in the Tucson area have a lot more tumbled stones as a result of the show.

Murray Hiller and Diana Hara did a spectacular job organizing and managing the event. The support people at the Fair grounds (Peggy Bauernfeind, Cory Kline, and Merle) were hospitable and helpful as usual. Cory provided one of my highlights while giving me and my drink cooler a ride to my car at the end of the day, she said, "We probably don't say it enough – we greatly appreciate our Club's participation at the fair. You add so much."

This year there is a large cast of characters that represented our Club at the fair informing the public about lapidary sciences in general and our Club's role. Sure, it was good to see the

same old tired faces manning our operations. However, it was a real high to see so many new members there as well. A heart felt **thank you** to the people who participated: Diana put in three eight-hour shifts in addition to helping with Setup and tear-down of the booth. Also helping with setup were Murray, Ron Davidson, and Jamie Mason. Teardown was accomplished by Murray, Diana, me, and Ron. Those persons performing two or more shifts of manning the booth were Diana Hara (3), Phil Babcock, Danny Harmsen, Ron Davidson, Paul Head, Jerry Foley, and Murray. Other volunteers included: Bill Carmody, Phil Babcock, Skip Barkley, Jean Barkley, Jamie Mason, Diane Braswell, Frank Beaven, Bob Powell, Betty Powell, Leslie Lawrence, Gwen Folsom, Don Feyrer, Gretchen Arnaz Pat M. Mullen, Jim Ferland, and Bob O'Donnell. Now that the fair is over we should be getting back to some of the Club improvement chores.

Art Kavan met us when we brought our equipment back to the Club from the fair. We had some of his treasures including his eight-pound faceted quartz that were on display. We also brought the craved/engraved gourd he had entered into the decorated gourd completion. We also brought the blue ribbon he was awarded for first place. What's wrong with this guy?

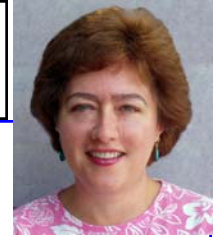
Doesn't he know how to lose? Art says he is still doing the chemo therapy and is weaker than heck. With his hair loss, he is catching up to me.

I talked Tom Miller today. He said his radiation and chemotherapy have been completed. The current phase is to wait and see the results of those two therapies. Then in several weeks, he will be evaluated for surgery.

This month the jewelry contest features the brooch. Enter your bauble and win a prize (If your entry is selected). Again, here are the new rules. The entries should have been made mostly using the Club's facilities. The winner will be chosen by a drawing vice a vote. We will have the same choice of prizes: Club T-shirt or lab pass. However, we will also have a vote for the best entry with the only prize for that being the satisfaction of winning the completion. The reason for change: some of the more skilled old timers who frequently dominated the competition didn't need anymore shirts or lab passes. So basically what we are looking for is recently constructed items that have been fabricated mostly in our facilities. We will try to extract a little narrative about the item's construction from the makers.

And remember, always practice safe lapidary.

APRIL MEETING MINUTES By Diana Hara - filling in for Jenny Coniglio



The educational program was delayed, so the meeting came to order at 9:05am. A quorum was present.

Minutes from March were approved.

The Club welcomed several visitors this month. New members who shared their interests with us were Jean Hengus , Aaron Wallach, and Jim and Nan Irby. Welcome!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill Carmody spoke with Tom Miller on Thursday evening. He said Tom is very tired but hanging in there. He has been going through chemotherapy and radiation for several weeks. He has four more days to go before it is complete. Then the doctors will wait about four weeks and determine if surgery is necessary. You are in our thoughts, Tom!

There was a tree trimming party at the Club in Mid-March. The city called and said the Club's trees were obstructing the street. So several volunteers got together and trimmed them up. Then the city charged the Club \$60 to come pick it all up! Thanks to the Brothers Klement, Murray Hiller, Danny Harmsen, Bill Carmody, Donna Pugh, and Ron Davidson for their hard work!

OLD BUSINESS

Frank Beaven volunteered to

fix the hinges on the trailer at the last meeting. As of April's meeting, one hinge has been installed and the other will be installed after the meeting. Thanks, Frank!

Skip Barkley gave a status on the taxes. The forms have been completed and the taxes are done for 2007!

NEW BUSINESS

Bill Carmody asked Melinda Thompson the status of the financial audit. Melinda will get with Terry Forrest and Sheila Powell to create an audit plan and carry it out. Sheila used to be an auditor and said that the audit committee needs to select 40 checks at random and Melinda should provide proof that the bills were paid.

Bill asked Diana Hara for an update on the exhaust system/polishing machine action item. Diana spoke with Dave Arens and Lou Ackerman. Dave and Diana determined which system was needed to replace the current polishing machine and sent their recommendations to the Board in an email. The cost for the replacement system is about \$800. The board will review the recommendation.

Skip Barkley provided information to Bill Carmody verifying that the Club IS exempt from paying property taxes for 2007.

The board will be watching

for a 'back-flow testing' letter in May.

Chuck Lundstrom announced that he is starting another casting class. It is \$45 and the sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Club.

Rick Dalzell mentioned that it would be good to have an equipment audit too. Rick said the Club should have at least a list of serial numbers for our large equipment. Rick is leaving for the summer but will be glad to help when he gets back in November. Melinda Thompson and Bob O'Donnell will help too. Sheila Powell said that she would inventory the minerals. Bill Carmody suggested that we add office machinery to this list too.

Ron Davidson announced that he is starting a 'beginning' silversmithing class on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6-9pm. The sign up sheet is on the board.

Paul Head announced that he is starting another Gem/Cad class. It is starting on Monday, April 14 from 9-12am and goes for 6 weeks. The sign-up sheet is on the board.

Abe Lackow is working on his silversmithing sessions with parties who signed up on his list. If you signed your name on his list, please contact him so

Cont'd on next page

.....Meeting Minutes cont'd from prior page.....

that he can schedule working with you and any other people sharing the same interest.

Bill Carmody mentioned that

the roof needs repairing. Ron Davidson said that he would look at it, but he needs help to get it fixed. Bill said we need to get to this soon before it gets too hot. Murray Hiller, Pat McMullen, and Jerry Foley

volunteered to help Ron.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50am.

Danny Harmsen won the jewelry contest!

Congratulations Danny.

The Discovery of Fluorine

By Andrew A. Sicree

Fluorine is a marvelously dangerous element. It is so dangerous that several of the early scientists who experimented with it were blinded or killed (they are sometime referred to as the "fluorine martyrs"). It is the most strongly reactive element.

In the mineralogical world, the most common fluorine minerals are fluorite, CaF_2 , cryolite, Na_3AlF_6 and fluorapatite, $\text{Ca}_5(\text{PO}_4)_3\text{F}$.

In 1670, Heinrich Schwanhard, a German glass-worker, treated fluorite with a strong acid and observed wisps of vapor rising from the

solution. As he bent down to examine the fluorite more closely, the vapor clouded his eyeglasses. Assuming the vapor had condensed on his glasses, Schwanhard took them off to wipe them clear. He found, however, that the vapor had actually attacked the glass lenses, etching their surfaces. This was quite remarkable because very few chemicals will react with glass.

By reacting fluorite with strong acids, Schwanhard was thus the first to generate hydrofluoric acid (HF). He kept this process proprietary and used it to create a successful glass-etching business.

Eventually, word of the

process got out, and scientists realized that hydrofluoric acid contained a new element. Carl Wilhelm Scheele (scheelite) and other scientists such as Joseph Louis Gay-Lussac (gaylussite), Caroline Menard, Humphry Davy, Antoine Lavoisier, and Louis Thenard (thenardite) experimented with hydrofluoric acid. They, and others, failed to isolate elemental fluorine. Henri Moissan (moissanite) finally succeeded in isolating fluorine in 1886 by electrolysis of HF and potassium hydrogen fluoride, an accomplishment that earned him the 1906 Nobel Prize for chemistry.

Source: Rolling Stones Beacon March 2008 via ©2008, Andrew A. Sicree, Ph.D. Popular Mineralogy, No. 8

NOTICE - SUMMER LAB CLOSINGS

Dan Harmsen's Friday morning cabbachon open lab will be closed from May 30th - September 26.

Lou Akerman's silversmithing open lab will be closed from June 9 - September 1.

SHOP HINT: When sawing geodes, look for the largest dome on the specimen. This dome was in an upright position while the specimen was formed. Saw through the largest dome and it is likely you will get the best picture.

Source: Rock Chips February 2008 via Gems of the Rogue—Feb 2008



In passing We have been informed that Louise Coffin, one of our Lifetime members, passed away March 13, 2008, in Tucson where she has resided for 55 years. She served in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and was retired from the Veteran's Hospital in Tucson. She and her husband were active in forming the Club and traveled to every state mining and collecting rocks. She was predeceased by her husband, Robert S. Coffin.

ART KAVAN HAS DONE IT AGAIN

Every two years on the even year Australia holds a world competition for the best faceters in the world. In 2006 the United States team won the first place gold medal for the first time in 20 years. This year in 2008 the United States team won the gold medal again. The United States team consisted of five members, Wing Evans Austin TX, Wing also won first place of all competitors, Jim Clark of Mesa Arizona, Art Kavan of Tucson Arizona, Bill Horton of

Michigan and Jack Freeman of Sierra Vista Arizona. The



competition consists of three stones each person must cut to

exact specifications set by the AIC competition committee, such as material used and size of each stone. Each stone is judged on the perfection it meets compared to many perimeters like scratches, meet points, chips, edges sharp, facets uniform, girdle thickness, girdle even, size as to specifications and so on.

It is probably the toughest of all competitions.

I was proud to be a member of the United States Team.

Art Kavan

FUN AT THE FAIR



Jerry & Anneliese Foley, Ron Davidson & Diana Hara



Murray Hiller, Bob O'Donnell, Phil Babcock, Diana Hara and Gretchen Arnaiz



Gretchen having fun with some attendees picking out some rocks for the kids.



Bob & Phil goofing off. Photo - Diana Hara

To **ALL** of the volunteers who helped out at the Fair. **THANK YOU** for helping make it the success that it was. Without your participation it wouldn't have gotten done..... Murray Hiller

NEW CASTING CLASS!!!

Chuck Lundstrom is starting another casting class on May 7th. The class will meet on the following dates:

Wednesday May 7th 6:00pm - 9:00pm
 Wednesday May 14th 6:00pm - 9:00pm
 Saturday May 17th 3:00pm - 5:00pm
 Wednesday May 21st 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Wednesday May 28th 6:00pm - 9:00pm
 Saturday May 31st 3:00pm - 5:00pm
 Wednesday June 4th 6:00pm - 9:00pm

The Casting Open Lab for May will be on May 17th. Please contact Chuck Lundstrom @ (520) 241-9262 if you have questions.

IVORY CARE Do not put ivory in the dark. It is one substance that needs light. If it has started to yellow, take a ½ lemon and rub it in some salt, then rub it over the ivory object. The lemon will work on the yellow discoloration. After it is dry, dampen a soft cloth with lukewarm water and rub the ivory piece to give it a bright finish.

Source: The Pegmatite via the Petrified Log, 03/00 via Blue Agate News 01/08 via Yellowstone Deposit Feb/Mar 08

RABID BOBCAT

One of our members, Rich Thompson, and his wife, Katrina Mangin, recently had a nasty encounter with a rabid bobcat in the Santa Rita Mountains, south of Gardner Canyon. What started out to be a quiet camping outing quickly turned into something quite unsettling. They noticed a nearby bobcat looking at them and it became obvious to Rich that it demonstrated odd behavior and he immediately knew they were in trouble. They tried to get away but it attacked Katrina and then Rich. Rich finally subdued it and quickly dispatched it with his trusty rock hammer. They went to UMC for medical attention where they each received several injections in the various bite areas and 4 more visits scheduled. (Photo - Katrina shows some of the bite marks made by the bobcat)



Photo Francisco Medina/Tucson Citizen

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Andrea Frost
Robert Frost
Nan Irby
James Irby
Robert Moya
Terry Moya
Joy Parker
Elsa Ramos
Lesli Wood
Craig Runyon

Hinges on the trailer getting fixed thanks to Frank Beavens. Frank is one of our Snowbirds, and one of our more recent new members, found the time to take care of this before heading back to Wisconsin the 1st of May. Thanks Frank, for helping out again.



Photo by Bob O'Donnell

DON'T FORGET

Please don't forget to bring in **YOUR** aluminum cans to the Club for recycling. Your contribution would be greatly appreciated to help add \$'s to the Club's treasury.

Thanks !

MEMBERSHIP NOTE

Due to the significant increase in the price of name badges, it has become necessary to charge \$3.00 for members that need a replacement badge.



ADVANCED FACETOR'S CORNER

The April question of the month was: What is Dravite?

The answer A brown tourmaline.

MAY QUESTION OF THE MONTH:

What is a Dichroscope?

Come to the May meeting to hear the answer.



MONTHLY JEWELRY CONTESTS

In order for members to better plan for future monthly contests, here is the schedule for each category by month:

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| January - Bolo Tie | May - Brooch | August - Faceted Stone | November - Bracelet |
| March - Belt Buckle | June - Cabochon | September - Chain | |
| April - Necklace | July - Charm | October - Pendent | |

The winner of the Necklace contest in April was Danny Harmsen. Congratulations Danny.



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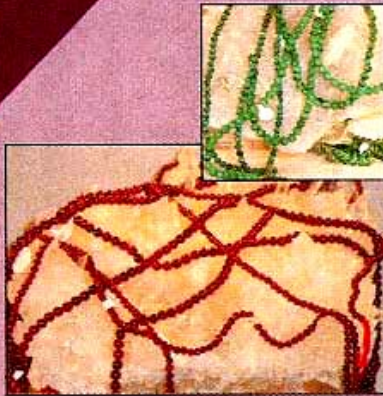
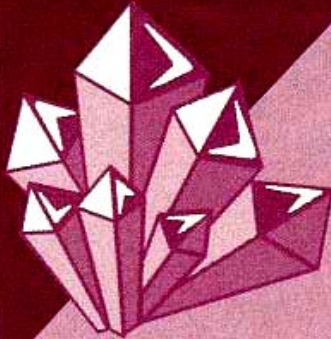
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DONATIONS

You may contact one of the following
individuals if you are interested in making a
donation (rocks, equipment, etc.) to the Old
Pueblo Lapidary Club. Please call:

Bill Carmody 760-8598

Dan Harmsen 721-8452

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WEEKLY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE Phone 323-9154

| | |
|--|--|
| <p><u>Mondays 9 - Noon</u> Beginning Cabbing - Class fee charged. Contact Charles Peters 574-2987</p> <p><u>Mondays 1 - 4 PM</u> Faceting Guild - Fee charged. Experienced facetors only. Contact Paul Head 296-0331</p> <p>Silversmith Lab - Fee charged. Contact Lou Akerman 290-6968</p> <p><u>(Note: Lou's lab will be closed Jun 9 - Sep 1)</u></p> <p><u>Mondays 6 - 9 PM</u> Beginning Faceting - Class fee charged. Contact Earl Zoeller 886-3518</p> <p><u>Tuesdays 9 AM – Noon</u> Open Cabbing - Fee charged. Contact Ron Davidson 749-3157</p> <p>Silversmithing Lab - Fee charged. Contact Ron Davidson 749-3157</p> <p><u>Tuesdays 10AM - 1PM</u> Rock Sawing - Fee Charged Monitor - Jim Baker 886-2126</p> | <p><u>Wednesdays 6 - 9PM</u> Beginning Casting - Class fee charged. Contact Chuck Lundstrom 577-6446</p> <p>Open Cabbing - Fee charged. Contact Keith Haubert 888-8719</p> <p><u>Thursdays 10AM - 1PM</u> Rock Sawing - Fee Charged Monitor - Jim Baker 886-2126 Please call to confirm Jim's availability</p> <p>Beginning Cabbing 1- 4 PM Class fee charged. Contact Frank Beaven 1-810-919-5545</p> <p><u>Fridays 9 AM - Noon</u> Open Cabochon Lab - Fee charged. Contact Dan Harmsen 721-8452 <u>(NOTE: Lab will be closed April - Sept.)</u></p> <p><u>Saturdays 10am - 3pm</u> Silversmithing - Ron Davidson 749-3157 Cabbing - Ron Davidson 749-3157</p> |
|--|--|

COMMITTEES

| | |
|--|---|
| <p><u>ADVERTISING</u> Jean Barkley 546-1651</p> <p><u>BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & EQUIPMENT</u> Ron Davidson 749-3157</p> <p><u>CLASSES & PROGRAMS</u> Bob O'Donnell 886-0384</p> <p><u>CLUB HISTORIAN</u> Sylvia Czayo 297-8607</p> <p><u>FIELD TRIPS</u> Rim Tallat-Kelpsa 760-8704</p> <p><u>JUNIOR EDUCATION</u> Gretchen Arnaiz 747-1511 Sheila Powell 578-1976</p> | <p><u>KITCHEN</u> General Membership</p> <p><u>LIBRARIAN</u> Cathy Van Atta 325-7195</p> <p><u>MEMBERSHIP</u> Wayne Klement 954-6298 Donna Pugh 299-1535</p> <p><u>SECURITY</u> Ron Davidson 749-3157</p> <p><u>SILENT AUCTION</u> Dan Harmsen 721-8452</p> |
|--|---|

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club
 (Cutting Remarks - May 2008)
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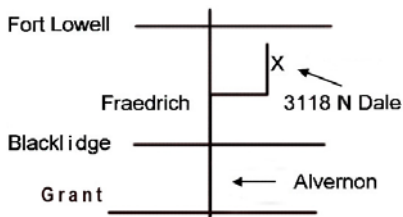
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| Junior | \$7.50 | \$7.50 | \$7.50 | \$7.50 |

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.