

“CUTTING REMARKS”

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

Officers

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 2024 - 2025 Wayne Klement 520-954-6298
 2025 Amanda Rodriquez 727-313-1662

Advisor - David Schulte 520-954-8554 (Past President)

Membership Chairperson - Jan Keisler 520-333-3398

Please join us
February 1 at 9:00am
 for the next monthly
 meeting. There is an
 optional social hour
 that begins at 8:00am
 followed by the
 monthly business
 meeting. Visitors are
 always welcome.



PLEASE READ

This month's monthly
 meeting will take place the
**1ST SATURDAY OF
 FEBRUARY, FEBRUARY
 1ST, NOT FEBRUARY 8,**
 due to the International
 Faceters Guild using our
 club during the gem show.

Articles or news to be included in the *Cutting Remarks* should be emailed to your Editor, Wayne Klement (wayneklem@aol.com) or call him at 520-954-6298. Submission deadline is the 25th of each month. Thanks! Email address: oplc3118@gmail.com

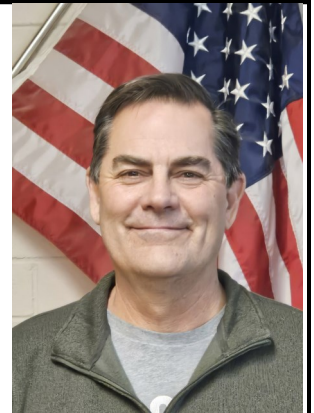
See us online at: www.lapidaryclub.org

Email address: oplc3118@yahoo.com

THE PREZ SEZ by Jack McCabe, President

Hello everyone from your new President. I've been a member for over 5 years and it's exciting to see so many new members step up to be a part of the Board. I look forward to getting to know you all as the year goes by.

I'm pleased to announce that Donovan Wagner has stepped up to be the lead for Field Trips this year, and we have already had several members volunteer to help with future outings. If you know of any good places to take a group of members on field trips let Donovan know.



We have been asked and we are looking into adding some new silversmithing classes so that more people will be able to use the silver lab. On the subject of Labs it was requested at the last Board meeting that uranium glass not be allowed to be worked in the labs because of the health hazards it can cause when it becomes airborne. The Board voted to ban uranium glass in the labs and signs will be posted soon.

The TGMS show is coming up soon and if you would like to loan any items that you have made in the labs or that could have been made in the labs, to be displayed in our display case on the main floor of the TGMS show please contact Wendy Hubler as she will be setting up the display for us. Thanks to everyone who has signed up to volunteer at our booth at the show.

The US Faceters Guild Frolic is almost here and if you would like to be involved check out the list of activities on the website or posted at the club.

As always we accept any and all donations to the club to include equipment or material dealing with lapidary. As a 501C organization you will receive a tax receipt for your donations. We can pick it up if you need help. You can let any of the club officers or Board members know and we will help with drop off or pick up times. If you have any small rocks or minerals (in groups of 50) our education program can use them in the teacher bags that we give out during the TGMS show.

And mark your calendars for another Tail Gate Sale to be held on March 15 from 8:00am - 12pm. For more information see the flyer on Page 7.

MINUTES OF OPLC MEMBERSHIP MEETING

January 11, 2025, at 9:00 am at OPLC
William Penrose, Secretary, wrp0143@comcast.net

The presentation was given by our Program Chairperson, Helen Serras-Herman, on "Guatemalan Jade", including its chemistry and cultural significance.

Minutes of the December 14 meeting were approved by the membership.

New members and visitors introduced themselves.

Treasurer End of Year Report – Mark Davidson – The club finds itself in a healthy financial position going into the new year. 64% of the authorized budget was spent. Exact figures are not published here but are available to members in good standing. In December, some large expenses were made, including a new 20" saw. Some large income sources were the Hob Nob, the Silent Auction, the Tailgate Sales, and the monthly raffles.

Membership – Janet Keisler – 258 members have signed up for 2025 so far.

Upcoming Events – Faceters Guild end of January, Hobnob February 8, TGMS gem show Feb 13 to 16, County Fair in April. Ultratech is sponsoring the Hobnob to the extent of \$700.

A request was made for volunteers to cover the booth at the TGMS. We are collecting items for display. Items should be marked, photographed, and given to John Poole, Chuck Lundstrom, or Wendy Huber.

We need a coordinator for field trips. There is a trip to Round Mountain on Jan 13 coordinated by Paul Hardenberg.

Silent Auction – Wayne is leading the donation efforts. Donations are tax deductible.

When attending a lab, be sure to call first and make sure the lab is proceeding as scheduled. Only paid-up members are allowed to use the labs, for insurance reasons.

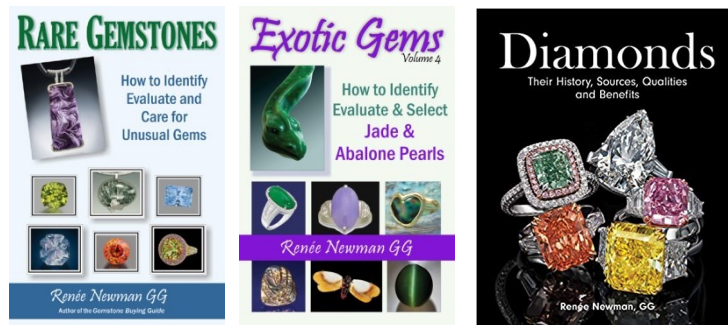
THE NEW BOARD AND EXECUTIVE WERE SWORN IN at this point in the meeting.

The raffle brought in about \$240.

The meeting was adjourned at 11 am.

February 1, 2025, OPLC speaker Renée Newman

The Diversity of American Gems, Western States



We are in for a wonderful presentation for our February 1, 2025, OPLC monthly meeting by internationally acclaimed gemologist and author of 14 books, Renée Newman. The dates have aligned this year to allow for Renée to be our speaker, as she always comes to Tucson during the first week of gem shows.

Renée's PowerPoint presentation will include gems from California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Nevada, and Idaho. She will focus on the most notable ones such as tourmaline, jade, benitoite, sunstone, opal, turquoise, chrysocolla, fire agate and Four Peaks amethyst, and the places where they are mined.

Renée Newman developed her interest in gems in the early 1980s while conducting tours to Asia, South America, and the South Pacific. In order to answer her passengers' questions about gems, she decided to study gemology at the Gemological Institute of America (GIA).

After receiving a graduate gemologist diploma from the GIA, she was hired as a gemologist at a wholesale firm in downtown Los Angeles. It provided hands-on experience grading diamonds and selecting colored gems and pearls for their jewelry. Armed with trade experience and gemological credentials, Renée decided to create books that showed readers how to visually evaluate the quality of gems. Since 1989, she has written thirteen more books on gems and jewelry.

For more information about Renée and her books go to www.reneenewman.com. You can connect with her on Instagram @reneenewmangg and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/renee.newman.5648/>

Renée's books will be available for sale at the meeting for a discounted price. Bring cash or check.

We look forward to seeing all, Helen Serras-Herman, OPLC Program Chair

OPLC SPEAKERS FORECAST 2025

I would like to thank all of our speakers in 2024 who gave some terrific, diverse presentations that our members have truly enjoyed. They came near and far and we are definitely enriched by their shared knowledge and expertise. And huge thanks to all of our members who come and are great audiences for our speakers.

Here is the latest list for our upcoming speakers:

- February 1, 2025, Renée Newman, **The Diversity of American Gems, Western States**
- March 8, 2025, Claire Scragg, **Being a Gem Detective**
- April 12, 2025, Douglas Graeme & Richard Graeme IV, **Bisbee Minerals**
- May 10, 2025, Jim Turner, **The Mine with the Iron Door**

DONATIONS

Thanks to those that have made donations in the past to help keep this club running! We welcome donations so if you have lapidary related items, please call Wayne Klement, 520-954-6298 and leave a message to make arrangements to have the donation picked up if you need help or to drop off at the Club.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Nicole Boddie
Nicole Bodem
Beth Friedman

Marilyn Kloehn
Brienne McNally
Brian Meyer

Tiffany Olson
Sandra Trevino
Khulan Tserenjau

OPLC MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

An application form can be downloaded from the Club website at: [Old Pueblo Lapidary Club Join US](#)

MEMBERSHIP RATES FOR NEW MEMBERS

| | Jan - Jun | Jul - Dec |
|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Single | \$35.00 | \$20.00 |
| Couple | \$50.00 | \$35.00 |
| Juniors | \$15.00 | \$10.00 |

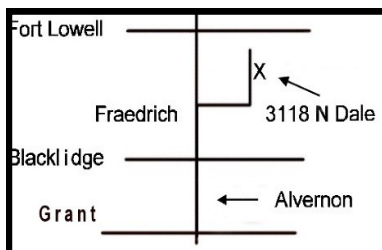
MEMBERS RENEWING

\$30.00
\$45.00
\$10.00

Note: Renewal fees will apply for members returning to rejoin regardless of the time of year.

Make check out to OPLC and mail to:

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club
Attn: Membership Chairperson
3118 N. Dale Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85712



The Business Meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month except for December. A pre-meeting social hour is at 8:00 a.m., followed by an educational program, and ends with the monthly meeting. Visitors are most welcome.

Our email address is: oplc3118@gmail.com

2025 GEM SHOW ✨ OPEN DAILY
January 30 - February 17, 2025 10am- 5pm



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2025 HOB NOB



Hosted by Old Pueblo Lapidary Club
3118 N Dale Ave., Tucson, AZ

February 8, 2025 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Meet some of the best faceting and most interesting people in the world!

Dealer tables available for faceting rough sales and other faceting related items.

(Dealer tables available for \$50.00 each.)



Best natural, synthetic, and fantasy cut stone contest. Enter your gem or vote for your favorites.



Event fee is \$20.00 per person



Mexican dinner included (vegan available)

Contact Dave Richardson
Ph. 520-245-2172
For questions

Tickets available in advance
or at the door.

Final event of the Symposium

MARCH 15 TAILGATE SALE

**Old Pueblo Lapidary Club—3118 North Dale
THIRD SATURDAY OF MARCH from 8am to 12pm**

OPLC members only as sellers!!

**Items for sale MUST be related to the lapidary or
metalsmithing arts or OPLC activities!**

**Parking for vendors in North Lot-- FROM 7:30 AM TO 8:00 AM only
The North parking lot WILL be open to monitors working that day.**

The South parking lot will be open to members and shoppers.

Participants need to bring their own tables.

A suggested donation of \$10 per vendor is requested.

If any questions call John Poole @ 520-777-5588

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\$24.00 per half year
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\$8.00 per month

Full page - 9 1/2" H by 7 1/4" W
\$168.00 per year
\$14.00 per month

MONEY SAVING DISCOUNTS

- **Allen's Treasure House** 10% off of finished jewelry (except custom made), decorator items, and novelties (excludes unformed minerals and specimen sets). 5% off of all other merchandise not having its own discount schedule, including unformed minerals and specimen sets. No discounts on services except per applicable schedule if any. **See ad in newsletter.**
- **DAH Rock Shop** - 10% on most items, \$10 minimum purchase.
520-323-0781 **3401 Dodge Blvd, Tucson. See ad in newsletter.**
- **Kent's Tools** - 10% discount except for net priced merchandise.
520-461-1350 - **2745 N 1st Avenue, Tucson 85719. See ad in newsletter.**
- **Tucson Mineral & Gem World** - 10% 520-883-0682 Web address:
www.tucsonmineral.com **2801 South Kinney Road, Tucson**
- **Arizona Lapidary** - Arizona Lapidary & Gem Rough - 5817 E Speedway Blvd. 10% Discount off rough rock 520-399-6641.
- **Silver Lining Gemstones** - 20-35% discount on most items.
520-203-8430. Mike DeMeritt on his Instagram Store (IG Name: **silverlininggemstones**)
- **Transformational Book Publishing** - 10% discount to members on your first book of 200 pages or less.

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BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & EQUIPMENT

Wayne Klement (520) 954-6298

Mike Tucker (520) 400-9656

PROGRAMS

Helen Serras-Herman (520) 761-9907

CLASSES

Victoria Fila (520) 664-0302

FIELD TRIPS (COMMITTEE)

Victoria Fila (520) 664-0302

HISTORIAN

Twink Monrad (520) 297-9454

JUNIOR EDUCATION

Teresa McCabe 520-490-7850

RAFFLE/DOORPRIZE

Kim Filips (520) 743-8070

KITCHEN

General Membership

LIBRARIAN

Bill Cascio (520) 638-8144

MEMBERSHIP

Janet Keisler (520) 333-3398

SECURITY

John Poole (520) 777-5588

BUSINESS MEETING REFRESHMENTS

Twink Monrad (520) 297-9454

Wayne Klement (520) 954-6298

SILENT AUCTION

TBD

NEWSLETTER

Wayne Klement (520) 954-6298

WEBSITE

Brian Peterson (520) 449-2660

This is the lab schedule which is current as of 1-13-25. Please CALL the Monitor that is running the lab to make sure that they have space for you.

Cabbing

Monday 8am-12pm Mike Wendler (817) 751-0622
6pm-9pm Donovan Wagner (520) 869-2050

Tuesday 9am-12pm 1st and 3rd Tuesday Dan Lilly (801) 995-9692
6pm-9pm Brian Peterson (520) 449-2660

Wednesday 9am-12pm Mark Davidson (520- 975-6075
5pm-8pm Keith Haubert (520) 784- 8283

Thursday 7am-11am Ken Briggs (520) 780-0640
1pm-4pm Wendy Huber (206) 669-6002

Friday **No Labs currently scheduled.**

Saturday **4th Saturday** 9:00am-2pm Ron Bryan (619) 495-7967
7am-12pm Dennis Stock (602) 421-2707
2pm-5pm Wendy Huber (206) 669-6002

Sundays **9am-12pm Gloria Shenanaquet (520) 396-9715**
12pm-2PM Paul Fickle (520) 883-6061

Silversmithing

Monday 10am-1pm Jane Morris (727) 743-0883

Tuesday 9am-12pm John Poole (520) 777-5588 No open shop Aug 13th, 20th, 27th.

Wednesday 9am-12pm Bill Cascio (520) 343-9927
5:30pm-8:30pm Stephanie Mendibles (520) 460-2101

Thursday 10am-4pm Sloane Padilla (520) 808-8699 (Text Only)

Friday 10am-2pm Giac D'Acquisto (520) 444-4143

Saturday 9am-12pm David Schulte (520) 954-8554

Sunday 10am-2pm Giac D'Acquisto (520) 444-4143

Faceting

Monday 9am-12pm Dave Richardson (520) 245-2172 Class & Open Lab

Wednesday 5:30pm-8:30pm David Schulte (520) 954-8554 Open Lab

Thursday 4pm-7pm Chuck Lundstrom (520) 241-9262 Class

Sunday 12:30pm-3:30pm Dave Richardson (520) 245-2172 Class & Open Lab

Casting

Monday **Noon-3pm 1st & 2nd Mondays** Liz Williams (818) 300-5262

Tuesday 8am - 11 am Steve Weeks (978)-807-0075

Wednesday 4pm-7pm Chuck Lundstrom (520) 241-9262 Classes every other month, beginning every January, open labs between classes; look for sign-up sheets in the meeting hall. Open lab available when NO class is running. Call for open lab availability.

Thursday 9am-1pm Mark Dragodovich (520)-906-4657

Friday 2pm-5pm 2nd & 4th Fridays Travis Austin (540) 420-3866

Sunday 1pm-4pm 1st & 3rd Sundays Travis Austin (540) 420-3866

Saw Room

Monday 7am-11am Ray Darragh (480) 652-0648

Wednesday 7am-11am Ray Darragh (480) 652-0648

Wednesday 9am-Noon Betty Mehlhoff (253) 208-7460

Thursday 7am-11am Betty Mehlhoff (253) 208-7460

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MINUTES OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025 OPLC BOARD MEETING

5:00 pm, W Penrose, wrp0143@comcast.net

Present: Jack McCabe presiding, Mike McDowell, Chuck Lundstrom, Wendy Huber, Bill Penrose, Wayne Klement, Amanda Rodriguez, Janet Keisler, Betty Mehlhoff, John Poole, Twink Monrad, Mark Marikos, Mike Tucker, Donovan Wagner, Dave Richardson. A quorum was present.

Treasurer's Report – Mike McDowell – The cash position is positive. Exact numbers are not given here, but are available to members on request. Large expenses in December included liability insurance and a new 24" saw for the sawroom.

Membership – Janet Keisler – 279+ members have renewed or joined so far in 2025. Up to date rosters are now in the labs and monitors are advised to check lab users against the list. A brief discussion clarified the proper renewal fee in the event the spouse of a single member also joins. The conclusion was the couples' renewal fee of \$45 plus \$5 for the new member badge. The small punch card is a gift for new members only and is not charged.

Lab Reports

Silver Lab – John Poole – All okay. A new class will be started February 18. There is a request forwarded by Amanda for an evening or Saturday beginners class. Bill Penrose to contact Bill Cascio in this regard.

Saw Room – Betty Mehlhoff, Mike Tucker - We need to contact a plumber to replace the water heater in the saw room. Two 24" blades have been ordered.

Cab Lab – Mike Tucker, Donovan Wagner – The new Titan will be delivered at the Gem Show. New wheels for the Genies will have to be purchased soon. Polishing pads have been replaced.

Faceting Lab – Chuck Lundstrom – All okay.

Casting Lab – Chuck Lundstrom – New supplies have been received. Classes will be conducted every other month beginning January.

Library – no report

Secretary – nil report

Website – no report

Field Trips – Donovan Wagner has agreed to be the coordinator for future field trips. All proposed future trips should be cleared through him. The Sierra Vista club has many field trips and we may be able to coordinate with them. The Daisy Mountain club also has many field trips. Victoria may be organizing a trip to the Hawley Mine.

TGMS Gem Show – The booth schedule is filled. Donovan and Wayne will help Dave Richardson with the setup on Feb. 12. We have forms for parking reimbursement.

County Fair – no activity yet

Hob Nob – There is a need for wifi at the Hob Nob. Donovan will set up his phone as a wifi hotspot, and he will be reimbursed for the cost.

A \$300 deposit is needed for the caterers.

There was a discussion about the need for a Certificate of Insurance.

Some volunteers are needed, for example, as cashier.

Ultratech donated \$700 toward expenses for the Hob Nob.

New Business – Amanda Rodriguez proposed banning work on uranium glass in the cab lab, due to radioactive contamination concerns. After a lengthy discussion, MOTION The working of uranium glass in the cab lab will not be allowed. This ban will be announced in the newsletter and posted in the lab. PASSED

Adjourned 6:15 pm