

“CUTTING REMARKS”

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

Officers

President Jack McCabe 520-297-3029
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2024 - 2025 Jan Keisler 520-333-3398
2024 - 2025 Wayne Klement 520-954-6298
2025 Wendy Huber 206-669-6002

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

Membership Chairperson - Jan Keisler 520-333-3398

Please join us May 10
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.



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!

Club mailing address: Old Pueblo Lapidary Club, 3118 N Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712

See us online at: www.lapidaryclub.org

Email address: oplc3118@yahoo.com

THE PREZ SEZ by Jack McCabe, President

Our semi-annual clean-up day at the club will be Saturday June 7th from 8am to 11am. We will provide snacks and drinks to all that can help with some much needed cleaning around the facility.

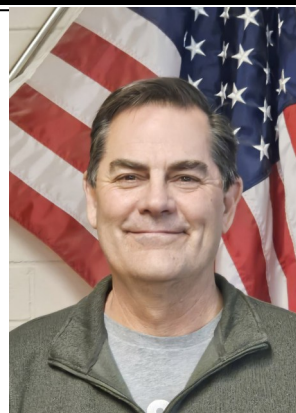
The Pima County Fair was a success with quite a few people showing interest in our club as they stopped at our booth. We were short on volunteers to help staff the booth and we did not have very many display items loaned for the event. We will definitely need more help next year to continue our participation.

Remember that the club does take donations of rocks and lapidary equipment to help keep the club operating. We are a 501 c and your donations are tax deductible. We will even come to you and pick-up the donations. All you have to do is let anyone on the board know.

We are looking for someone to lead a wire wrap class. If this is something that you have done and would be willing to teach others, please let a board member know.

Remember we will have a Show and Tell section at the meeting. If you have any examples of projects you created in the labs or if you have been to a good rockhounding area and would like to tell the club about it, we would love to hear from you.

Hope to see you at the Club.



Minutes of OPLC Membership Meeting April 12, 2025, at 9:00 am at OPLC William Penrose, Secretary, wrp0143@comcast.net

The presentation was given by Douglas Graeme & Richard Graeme IV, "Forgotten Caves of Bisbee, Arizona," with historical and modern photographs of the massive caves associated with the copper deposits.

Announcements

Wayne Klement was thanked for bringing the donuts.

Wendy Huber is stepping up to fill the board seat vacated by Amanda Rodriguez, who has moved from Tucson.

John Poole is moving to Colorado, after serving as President and also as owner of the silver lab and teacher for many years.

Pete Peterson, former President of the club, passed away this past month. He guided the reconstruction of the lab building interior to create larger and more efficient labs.

Janelle Cortwright, longtime member and organizer of field trips, also passed away recently.

Treasurer Report – Mike McDowell – First quarter 2025 books have been closed. In spite of large expenses typical of a new year, the club is financially ahead for the quarter. Most income has been from the Hob Nob, memberships, classes, and raffles. Exact figures are not shown since this version of the minutes is available to the general public.

Meeting minutes cont'd on top of next page

Cutting Remarks, Volume 2025, Issue 5, May 2025. Published monthly by the Old Pueblo Lapidary Club, 3118 N. Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712. Telephone: (520) 323-9154, a non-profit organization.

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

Membership – Janet Keisler – Members in good standing is at 391 plus memberships received today. Members are reminded to carry their membership cards for admittance to the labs as well as to claim discounts at participating merchants.

Pima Country Fair – Dave Richardson – He has a full roster of volunteers to man the booth. Photos of club activities are needed for the display boards.

Show and Tell – A new feature of monthly meetings.

Jill Hofer – has had an article published in Tucson Guide Magazine, “The Cave and Mines of Southern Arizona”. Tucson Guide is available online and free in print form at Safeway and other location in Southern Arizona.

Don Heitmann – has vests made with the club crest, sewn by his wife. These are for sale as he is moving away shortly. Obtain his phone number from the club Secretary.

Field Trips - Rod Trevino spoke about an upcoming field trip into the Chiricahua Mts with the Sierra Vista club, Huachuca Mineral and Gem Club. To attend, meet at the Circle K in Douglas, AZ, at 9 am on Saturday, April 26. Rod's number is 520-236-6088

Door Prize – was won by Mo Garrett.

New Business –

Jerry Glazman - suggested that a committee be convened to investigate funding a scholarship with the large amount of money that the club has accumulated. It has been added to the agenda for the next Board meeting.

Mike McDowell – has requested a replacement computer for club financial work, plus appropriate software. The amount requires membership approval. MOTION: To approve expenditures not to exceed \$3000 for computer and software to be selected by Mike. PASSED

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 am.

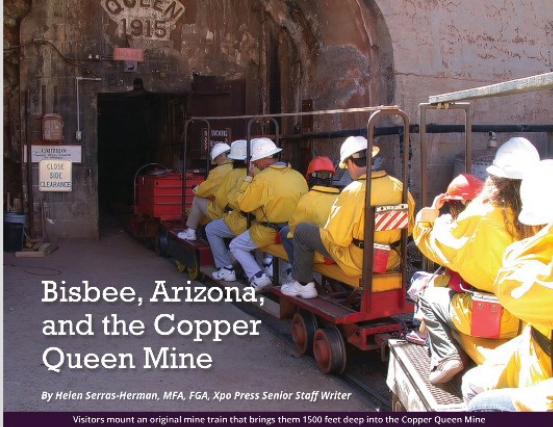
Photo description

Photo © Helen Serras-Herman

Visitors mount an original mine train that brings them 1500 feet deep into the Copper Queen Mine



Helen Serras-Herman, a 2003 National Lapidary Hall of Fame inductee, is an acclaimed gem sculptor and FGA gemologist with over forty years of experience in unique gem sculpture and jewelry art. See her work at www.gemartcenter.com and her business Facebook page at Gem Art Center/Helen Serras-Herman



**Bisbee, Arizona,
and the Copper
Queen Mine**

By Helen Serras-Herman, MFA, FGA, Xpo Press Senior Staff Writer

Visitors mount an original mine train that brings them 1500 feet deep into the Copper Queen Mine

Mines in Southern Arizona produced valuable silver, gold, copper, and the highly sought-after copper-related minerals, turquoise, azurite, malachite, opal, and cuprite. For the gem and mineral lover, Bisbee is a must-visit destination. Start at the **Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum** (a Smithsonian Affiliate) which offers occasional mineral and photographic exhibits. For a first-hand experience of an authentic underground mine, head across the street to the historic **Copper Queen Mine**. The town of Bisbee, mostly built on the hillside, is unique with its historic hotels and restaurants, and art and antique shops. Bisbee became a booming mining community in the 1880s, after rich copper deposits were discovered. Today, the well-preserved Victorian-style buildings offer an insight of its past grandeur.

The Copper Queen Mine

The Copper Queen Mine was purchased by San Francisco's Mr. DeWitt Gibbs and a group of investors in 1880, five years after Hugh Jones discovered copper but left disappointed because it was not silver. The mine was one of the most productive copper mines of the 20th century, producing eight billion pounds of copper, 2.8 million ounces of gold and 77 million pounds of silver.

Phelps Dodge Corporation acquired the mine in 1985 but closed it in 1995. Following extensive volunteer work to clean the site and re-enter the old workings, the Copper Queen Mine Tour opened to visitors in 1976.

The Copper Queen Mine Tour

The Copper Queen Mine Tour is an adventure deep into the mine. Visitors are outfitted in a yellow slicker, hard hat, and a miner's headlamp. After a brief introduction and safety briefing, guests mount an original mine train that takes them 1,500 feet deep into the mine. Most tour guides are retired Phelps Dodge employees who share first-hand accounts of their mining days, along with tales and history of the Bisbee mines. They also explain the purpose and operation of the mining equipment inside the mine. This incredible tour lasts approximately one hour. The cost is \$16 for adults, \$8 for children ages six to twelve, children under five are not permitted underground. There is also an excellent exhibit of rocks and minerals, many of them local, and some are available for purchase. For tour times and directions visit: www.copperqueenmine.com

Before leaving the area make sure to stop at the overlook just south of the mine, where you can view the impressive **Wendover Open Pit Mine** (now partly underground). Through 1974, it produced 66 million tons of copper, gold, silver, and turquoise ore!

42 | 2025 TUCSON LG-GUIDE

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OPLC Speakers Forecast 2025

I would like to thank all of our speakers who give us some terrific and diverse presentations that our members have truly enjoyed. They come 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:

May 10, 2025, Jim Turner, **The Mine with the Iron Door**

June 14, 2025, Dr. Jeffrey Martz, Curator Paleontology Texas Tech University (TTU), Lubbock, Texas

July 12, 2025 _____

August 9, 2025 Ron Hyde, Curator of Southern Arizona Museum of Science & Technology in Sierra Vista presenting **Museum Collections**

September 13, 2025, Chuck Galloway, **History of Mining in Santa Cruz County 1540-1946**

October 11, 2025 Gwendolyn Awen Jones, **The Gallanish Stones in Scotland**

November 8, 2025 _____

December 13, 2025, Holiday Party (no speaker)

OPLC Speakers Forecast 2026

January 10, 2026 Sandy Lanter Raynor, **Jewelry Styles and Trends during the Revolutionary War (1775-1783)**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



John Corbell
Robert Corbell
Joe & Toots D'Acquisto
Cody-John & Cori Davis
Christopher Genovese
Katherine Hon

Chari Jagelka
Patrick McGowan
Bradlei Smith
Stephen Webb

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.

- Tony Castillo from the Detector's Unlimited Club donated several fossils in limestone and two containers of miscellaneous mineral specimens.

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January 30 - February 17, 2025 10am- 5pm



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MONEY SAVING DISCOUNTS

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- **DAH Rock Shop** - 10% on most items, \$10 minimum purchase.
520-323-0781 **3401 Dodge Blvd, Tucson. See ad on Page 9.**
- **Kent's Tools** - 10% discount except for net priced merchandise.
520-461-1350 - **2745 N 1st Avenue, Tucson 85719. See ad on Page 10.**
- **Kino Rocks and Minerals** - NEW LOCATION - 6756 S Nogales Hwy, Tucson, AZ 85756 520-345-7957. 10% Discount for OPLC members. See ad on Page 7.
- **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**)

Allen's Treasure House

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Teresa McCabe 520-490-7850

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Janet Keisler (520) 333-3398

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Note: The April 1, 2025 Board meeting minutes were not received in time before the April newsletter was distributed to the membership. The actual distribution of the April meeting minutes will be in the May newsletter. Ed.

Minutes of Tuesday, April 1, 2025 OPLC Board Meeting
5:00 pm, W Penrose, wrp0143@comcast.net

Present: Jack McCabe presiding, Mike McDowell, Chuck Lundstrom, Bill Penrose, Wayne Klement, Wendy Huber, Mark Dragoslovich, Janet Keisler, Dave Richardson, John Poole, Twink Monrad. A quorum was present.

It was noted that Amanda Rodriguez had moved away. Wendy Huber agreed to take her place. MOTION: Wendy Huber should be appointed to fill the vacant Board seat. PASSED

Treasurer's Report – Mike McDowell – The cash position is positive. Exact numbers are not given here, but are available to members on request. Major income items: Classes, memberships, sawroom. Major expenses: 55 gallons of cutting oil. First quarter: positive.

Membership – Janet Keisler – 390.

Lab Reports

Silver Lab – John Poole – John is moving to Colorado at the end of April. Giac D'Acquisto is taking over as lab owner.

Cab Lab – No report.

Saw Room – No report.

Faceting Lab – Dave Richardson – Machines are in good order.

Casting Lab – Chuck Lundstrom – Classes are ongoing in classic and 3D casting.

Library, Secretary, Website – No reports.

Field trips – Jack joined the Sierra Vista club for a field trip near Bowie on March 29. We can develop an ongoing relationship with the SV club, who have more field trips than we do.

County Fair – Dave Richardson – The COI has been submitted to the fair organizers. There are still many slots open for attending our display, but the list has to be in soon. Dave will buy tickets to cover those who sign up late.

New Business –

Shop cards – have been distributed without registration forms. These will be added.

Termites – insect signs are found in the lab building bathroom - our contract should be re-activated.

Donuts for monthly meetings – more money is needed MOTION – Increase refreshment allowance to \$80 from \$60. PASSED

Security – The gate was left unlocked one day. Remind members at the monthly meeting.

Payments to the club – Mark Dragoslovich suggested a rapid payment/Paypal account for dues, classes, etc – He will investigate the feasibility.

Accounting - Mike McDowell suggested the laptop is old and out of date – after some discussion, MOTION: Allow up to \$3,000 for a new accounting laptop and appropriate software like Quickbooks, Office, etc. PASSED

Meeting Adjourned at 6:00 pm

MINUTES OF TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2025 OPLC BOARD MEETING

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

Present: Jack McCabe presiding, Mike McDowell, Chuck Lundstrom, Bill Penrose, Wayne Klement, Janet Keisler, Mark Mariko, Dave Richardson, Twink Monrad, Giac d'Acquisto. A quorum was present.

Termite specialists are due April 30, between 11:30 and 1:30. Someone needs to be there. Sloane Padilla has a lab session that day. We will ask her to be present.

Treasurer's Report – Mike McDowell – The cash position is positive. Exact numbers are not given here, but are available to members on request. The new treasurer's computer has been purchased, along with necessary software, Office and Quickbooks. A new safe has been purchased and installed. Venmo and Paypal are both still in consideration.

Membership – Janet Keisler – 398 + two new applications.

Lab Reports

Silver Lab – Giac is the new owner of the silver lab. Sloane Padilla expects to do an instructional class on Wednesdays and an open lab session.

Cab Lab – No report

Saw Room – No report.

Faceting Lab – Dave Richardson – One machine is down; the new motor received doesn't fit and a replacement has been ordered.

Casting Lab – Chuck Lundstrom – The melting furnace burned a hole in the bottom due to a broken crucible.

Other Business

Field trips – Jack and three members went with the Huachuca club on April 26 into the Chiricahua Mountains, leaving from Douglas. They recovered large amounts of peanut obsidian. The June trip to the Queen Mine and Museum has been organized.

County Fair – Dave Richardson – The turnout of members to the county fair was disappointingly low. Dave R covered many of the shifts himself.

Scholarships – After a suggestion by a member, a brief review of scholarships was reviewed when this subject was covered years ago. The paperwork and legal load for a scholarship is greater than it would be worth to the club.

Mineralogical Society of Arizona – Dave Richardson has been invited to attend a function by the MSA. He will attend.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:00 pm

This is the lab schedule which is current as of 5-02-25. 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 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
2pm-5pm Mark Davidson (520- 975-6075)

Silversmithing

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

Tuesday 9am-12pm Bill Cascio (520) 343-9927

Wednesday 10am-2pm Sloane Padilla (520) 808-8699 (Text Only)
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 9am - 12pm Steve Weeks (978)-807-0075 **(Text Only)**

M/W/F 10am - 11 am **(Text First)**

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 Draslodovich (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

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

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