

# “CUTTING REMARKS”

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

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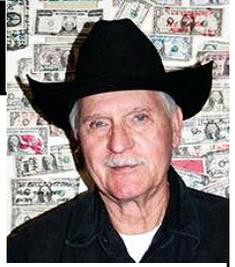
Wayne Klement 954-6298

Please join us on August 13th for the next 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, Wayne Klement ([wayneklem@aol.com](mailto:wayneklem@aol.com)), or feel free to call him at 520-954-6298. Submission deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Thanks!

# THE PREZ SEZ ..... by Pete Peterson



The Prez doesn't have much to say this month. Ginny and I have been on vacation in Peru for most of July. We saw a variety of wild life and many pre-Incan ruins that might interest some of you. We also visited The Andrew Del Castillo Mineral Museum and I think you all might be interested in what we discovered there.

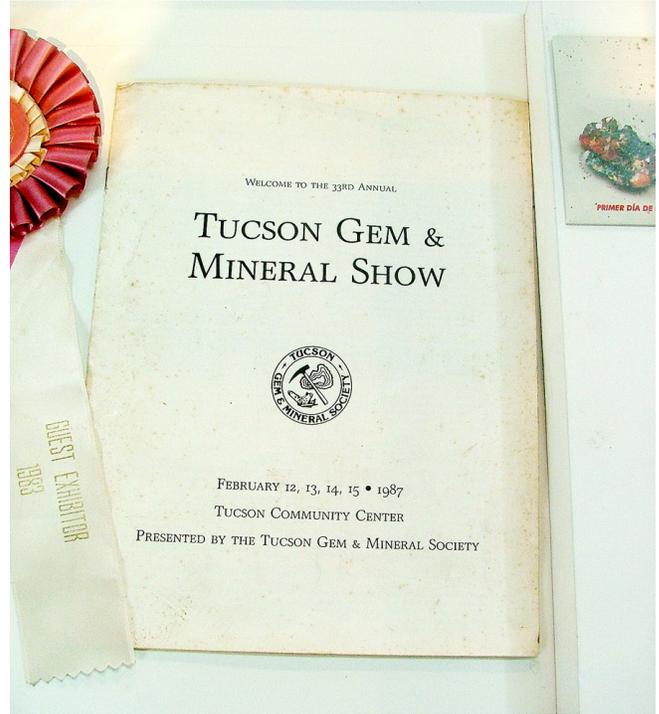
As we entered the museum there was a large display case showing articles used in gem collecting. Some of the articles consisted of a rock hammer, a loop, hardness testing kit, a microscope and a lot other small hand tools.

In addition, in the lower right corner was a



document that caught my interest. A show catalog printed in black and white with the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show seal on the

cover dated 1987 and next to it was a ribbon indicating Guest Exhibitor, dated 1983 from Tucson, Arizona. I thought this was pretty cool and since we have a lot of TGMS members among us I guessed you might



also find it amusing.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our August meeting, don't miss it, we will have a well known artist speaking to us.

Pete

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Daniel Burnett

Bill Orr

Preston Schlabach

Jan Woods

Paul Carlson

Norma Orr

Quenton Schlabach

Dawn Zukas

Katherine Cole

Sandra Penrose

Frank Schleicher

Olivia Lundin

William Penrose

James St John

Marlene Mattarazzo

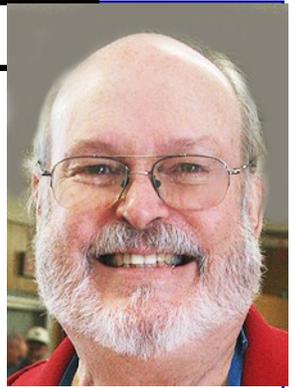
Linda Pliska

Ruth Anne Vissia



*Cutting Remarks*, Volume 2011, Issue 8, August 2011. Published monthly by the Old Pueblo Lapidary Club, 3118 N. Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712. Telephone: (520) 323-9154, a non-profit organization.

## JULY MEETING MINUTES . . . . By Acting Secretary, Skip Barkley



Vice President Bill Carmody called the meeting to order at 9:18am. The meeting commenced early since there was no speaker scheduled. Bill noted that OPLC member Helen Serras-Herman will be our speaker in August and, as Helen's presentations are always interesting, we look forward to next month's meeting.

Absent from the meeting were the OPLC President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Chairman. On a positive note 100% of the board members were present.

It was noted that a quorum was present and, as the first order of business, the minutes of the June meeting were approved.

New members Bill Orr and Carol Crawford were welcomed into the club. In addition we have two new Junior members, Preston and Quentin Schlabach, grandchildren of OPLC member Cary Dougherty. Cary joined the club last month.

Bill introduced two visitors who hail from the southern Ural region of Russia, Kate Lashkova and Fedor Nefedov, who are currently renting Bill's home in Orlando and have become his good friends. They are students of Central

Florida University.

Under old business, Bill noted we had ordered new wheels for our Titan and Genie cabbing machines but they have yet to be delivered. We expect delivery in the near future. Bill passed on Danny Harmsen's report on his progress on preparing for the silent auction in November and the progress is excellent! Bill presented an overview of the club finances and noted that we have no current liabilities.

Bill made special mention regarding the outstanding effort toward keeping our restrooms spotless. Kudus to Janet Rupp.

Bill solicited a volunteer with a talent for art to step forward and repaint our two exterior club signs. After the meeting, Club member Trevor Chilcote volunteer his services. Many thanks to Trevor for his kind offer. The Club will assist as necessary.

Bill briefly described what was being planned regarding the club creating an expanded cabbing area. The plan involves moving the existing saw room into what is now the cabbing room and taking over the entire the east end of the lab building as our new cabbing facility. A total price

of \$10,000 is being eyed as the upper bound in getting the job done. Responding

to a member's query it was noted that Pete Peterson had a free hand sketch that he and the board were using to start the high level planning. Pete intends to prepare scaled drawings when he returns from vacation for use as the planning moves into finer granularity. Bill also noted the expansion of the cabbing facility will accommodate additional equipment. He further indicated that we already have some cabbing equipment in storage. OPLC member Mike Demeritt indicated he would donate a cabbing machine for use by the club. Thanks, Mike.

Bill reminded members to sign up to bring morning snacks to future meetings. The signup sheet is located in the kitchen.

Ray Brown will give our new members a tour of our facilities immediate following the meeting and the door prize/raffle drawings.

Bill adjourned the meeting at 9:36

## **The Saga of Pork Chop Hill**

by Art Kavan

I have been fighting with the creatures of the desert for a long time but this one takes the cake. About two years ago, after a very windy day, I noticed a cactus about three feet tall was blown down in my yard. It was kind of unusual so I picked it up with a piece of carpet and moved it into my little cactus patch on the side of the house. After a couple of days, I noticed that pigs were eating on it so I put a sturdy fence around it and for the next two years it thrived and grew well. About two months ago Sandy and I were talking about how we have not seen any sign of the pigs lately so I decided to take the fence down. In early November we went to Omaha to visit friends and family for about a week. When we got home I noticed my nice cactus and turned into a nipple cactus that is about the size of a nipple on a baby bottle. The javelinas loved that cactus. The problem was I did too. Just a cactus you might think - - WRONG - - this was War!

Last night will live on in infamy or whatever! Sandy woke me up about 1:30AM and said the pigs were out back and throwing my bait boxes for the rats around and she had gotten no sleep in the past half hour. They like the rat poison made out of oatmeal and peanut butter that I use to bait the rat traps. Mistake number one was getting up and mistake number

two was not getting dressed. If you ever are to go into battle do not go in your birthday suit with just a pair of briefs on, not good, not smart. Anyway, I charged to the back of the house and looked out the patio window. There were fifteen javelinas out on my patio. Several had peed on the patio and one must have drunk some green ink because he peed dark green. I thought, oh no, the pigs are using graffiti on me. I then charged to the front and looked out the window and there were seven out there peeing on the front porch and eating the potting soil out of my flower pots along with the flowers. Now I kinda lost it and ran to the back door, opened it, and charged the pigs. You know I am an ex-Marine, a dumb one, but still an ex-Marine. I dodged around all the pee and kicked and screamed, but my pigs must have been deaf pigs because they were in no hurry to do anything. Now I'm raving mad and going for my gun. I started to run through the kitchen and then it happened. A chair attacked me. First it hit me in the stomach and then I would have sworn it tore my big toe off. I stood there on one leg in my birthday suit trying to figure out why I deserved this when I felt some warm sticky fluid running down my face. I thought, oh my God, the pigs must have hooped me. I hopped over and turned on the light. It ruined my night vision but what the heck, I might need a medic. After I calmed down and

inspected myself I discovered that it wasn't blood as I had thought, but tears. Yeah, I must have been, only the second time since my ninth year. The last time was a couple of years ago when I fell into a prickly pear cactus. I told you the desert is bad. Anyway, now I'm really ready for battle even though the chair took some fight out of me. I ran to the closet and got my AK47 pellet rifle with scope and charged out the front door where one of the guilty was going to pay. I point and fire at a pig three feet away from me and the gun goes pooh! Darn, I had a pea shooter when I was a kid that made more noise than that. It must have lost its air! It's only a single shot and you have to have patience to reload it. Forget that. By this time the pigs must have decided that they had had enough of this circus clown for one night and started rambling off. I came back to bed to the wife who started all this only to hear her coping some ZZZ's. Oh well, I laid there and let out an audible laugh as the only thing that was going through my mind was where the H..... is my Roloids when I need them?

Humiliated, but still owner of the hill - - Ex-Marine, Arthur

P.S. The language has been considerably cleaned up for this message, believe me! Also, if any of you plan on visiting me in the near future, please call first so I can clear the mine field and disconnect the booby traps.

## SPEAKER FOR THE AUGUST MEETING - Helen Serras-Herman

### Central Arizona's Gold – Mines and Museums. Visit them for History & Inspiration

For all lapidaries, rock hounds and gem enthusiasts, especially those who have moved to Arizona from somewhere else – and there are many of us- a trip to an old mine generates many different emotions. The allure of what is hidden in 'them hills', the fascination with the stories behind how the mines were found and explored, and the attraction of what can be created from the beautiful gems and minerals, are all emotions that will inspire us to visit these old mines.



In this lecture, we will travel to central Arizona, east and west of Phoenix and Interstate I-10, and visit the **Goldfield Mine**, in Goldfield, and the **Vulture Gold Mine**, near Wickenburg. We will talk about the legend of the fabled *Lost Dutchman Mine*, the gold that was found there, only to be lost, and is still being sought today. The *Vulture Gold Mine*, discovered in 1863 by Austrian Henry Wickenburg, the town's founder, produced gold worth more than 200 million dollars. We will also give information about how to visit both mines and the museums.

## DONATIONS

**Bill Illig** donated a ball mill, metal shear, crock pot for pickling, silver tools and casting equipment.

**Dan Caudle** donated rough for faceting that included Garnets, Quartz, Peridot, Tourmaline, Corundum, CZ, Rhodolite, Beryl, Chrome Diopside, Apatite, topaz, Leaded Glass and other faceting rough. He also gave jewelry display boxes and small items containers.

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## BANJO BAND IS A BLAST FOR SENIORS

**Residents at Sunrise Senior Living get a kick out of 'happy music' that includes tunes from the past**

*By David Sanders, Arizona Daily Star  
(Reprinted with permission)*

*(Ed note: Lulu Nicolosi is a lifetime member of OPLC and shows up every week for Monday afternoon faceting)*

The "happy music" was contagious last Friday, July 22, 2011, causing folks at Sunrise



*Lulu Nicolosi and the rest of the Arizona Banjo Blasters perform at Sunrise Senior Living, 4975 N. First Ave., during one of the facility's daily social hours.*

Senior Living to smile and tap their feet. The Arizona Banjo Blasters performed tunes from the 1920s in an hour-long set at the senior residence, 4975 N. First Avenue. Sunrise hosts a daily social hour. "Every day at 3 o'clock is kind of a big thing for our residents," said activities and volunteer coordinator Raul Murillo. "We provide a social seven days a week with entertainment, different programs, activities, musicians. We have trivia, and just different types of programs to keep them entertained." On Friday, Murillo bustled around serving drinks and little sandwiches. "This is their home, so we do the best we can to enhance their quality of life and make them happy. But this group today, they love," he said of

the Banjo Blasters.

The Arizona Banjo Blasters was founded in 2007 with the purpose of playing "happy" banjo music, said Doug O'Brien, who belted out many of the songs, including "You're a Grand Old Flag," "Four Leaf Clover" and "Ain't She Sweet?" with the help of seven banjo players, a washboard player and a female singer. "We've been practicing for about three years," O'Brien said before the show. "Some of the guys are new banjo players, three years or so, and some of them have been playing banjo for 60 to 70 years. I've only been playing for 53."

Resident Rose Mari Walsh, 73, said she enjoyed the performance. "I like the group of banjo players – they are very nice and I like it because the banjo has a different sound to it," she said.

The group mostly plays at senior living facilities, for a nominal fee, and the money goes to three local charities: Anthony's Foundation, Mobile Meals of Tucson and Tucson Unified School District's Open Minds Through the Arts.

But the crowd's reaction is what makes it worthwhile, O'Brien said. "Sometimes they will smile and sing along, tap their feet, and we know we are making them happy," he said. "That's the point of the whole thing, 'cause we are doing this for fun. If you're not having fun, you shouldn't be doing this." GO TO: [www.azbanjoblasters.com](http://www.azbanjoblasters.com) for more information about the Arizona Banjo Blasters.

Contact David Sanders at 573-4155 or [dsandersZazstarnet.com](mailto:dsandersZazstarnet.com)

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## PERLITE

Perlite is not a trade name but a generic term for naturally occurring siliceous rock. Perlite is an amorphous volcanic glass that has a relatively high water content, typically formed by the hydration of obsidian. It occurs



*Photo courtesy of Wikipedia*

naturally and has the unusual property of greatly expanding when heated sufficiently. It is an industrial mineral and a commercial product useful for its light weight after processing. The distinguishing feature which sets perlite apart from other volcanic glasses is that when heated to a suitable point in its softening range, it expands from four to twenty times its original volume. This expansion is due to the presence of two to six percent combined water in the crude perlite rock. When quickly heated to above 1600°F (871°C), the crude rock pops in a manner similar to popcorn as the combined water vaporizes and creates countless tiny bubbles which account for the amazing light weight and other exceptional physical properties of expanded perlite. This expansion process also creates one of

perlite's most distinguishing characteristics: its white color. While our perlite rock is a light gray, it's color changes to white after expansion. Expanded perlite can be manufactured to weigh as little as 2 pounds per cubic foot making it adaptable for numerous applications. The expansion

Fraction	Use
53%	Building construction
14%	Horticulture Aggregate
14%	Fillers
8%	Filter Aid
11%	Other

*Courtesy of Wikipedia*

process will control many of the variables of the final product. In most instances

(though not all) our perlite is expanded in vertical furnaces. When the processed, unexpanded perlite is introduced into the furnace it falls down towards the heat source. As it falls it begins to expand becoming buoyant in the air stream running through the system. The furnace operator can control the density of the finished product by adjusting the temperature and air flow in the furnace. (Ref. Wikipedia). New Mexico continues to lead the country in perlite production with the largest output of six producing states, and the main markets for New Mexico's perlite were its uses in building construction, as filter aids, as a filler, and in agriculture. Check out your copy of (Bulletin 83) Mineral Deposits of Western Grant County, New Mexico for locations that have been mined here. Also Bulletin 70, Geology of the Knights Peak Area, Grant County, NM lists a mine.

Source: The Grant County Rolling Stones Gem & Mineral Society - Beacon July 2011

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Ad Expires June 2012

### 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!**

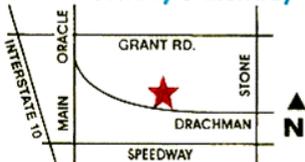
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**1201 North Main Avenue, Tucson 85705** Web address: <http://www.color-wright.com/>
- **Jay's of Tucson** - 30% discount excluding orange tag items, sterling silver sheet and wire.  
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**4627 E Speedway, 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  
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- **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](http://www.tucsonmineral.com)  
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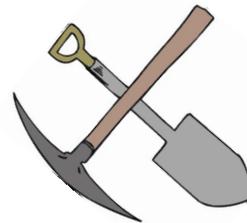
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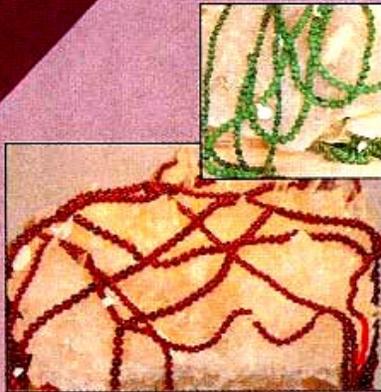
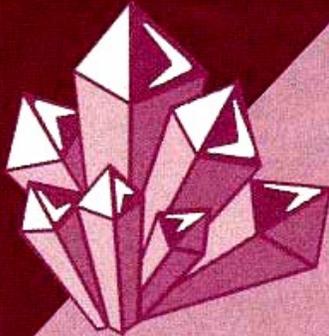
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Ad Expires February 2012

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## WEEKLY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE Phone 323-9154

### Mondays

1PM - 4PM **Faceting Guild** (Exp. Facetors Only)  
Monitor - Paul Head 296-0331

1PM - 4PM **Silversmith Lab**  
Monitor - Terry Cox 296-4949

**(Note: Lou's last day was June 7th. He'll be back September 7th)**

6PM - 9PM **Beginning Faceting**  
Monitor - Earl Zoeller 886-3518

### Tuesdays

9AM - Noon **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Ron Davidson 749-3157

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

10AM - 1PM **Rock Sawing**  
Monitor - Jim Baker 886-2126  
(Call before showing up at the Club)

6PM - 9PM **Silversmithing**  
Contact Ray Brown 390-5667

### Wednesdays

6PM - 9PM **Beginning Casting**  
Monitor - Chuck Lundstrom 577-6446

6PM - 9PM **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Keith Haubert 784-8283

### Thursdays

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

### Fridays

~~9AM - Noon Cabbing~~  
~~— Monitor — Dan Harmsen 721-8452~~

**NOTE: Last lab for the winter was May 20th. Lab will resume October 7th !!!!!**

### Saturdays

9AM - 2PM **Rock Sawing**  
Monitor - Jim Griffin 578-3765

10AM - 3PM **Silversmithing**  
Monitor - Ray Brown 390-5667

10AM - 3PM **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Ron Davidson 749-3157

## COMMITTEES

### ADVERTISING

Jean Barkley 546-1651

### BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & EQUIPMENT

Ron Davidson 749-3157

Dave Arens 749-2413

### CLASSES & PROGRAMS

Bill Carmody 760-8598

### 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

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club  
 (Cutting Remarks - Aug 2011)  
 3118 N. Dale  
 Tucson, AZ 85712  
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OPLC Membership Application - Please Print

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

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

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

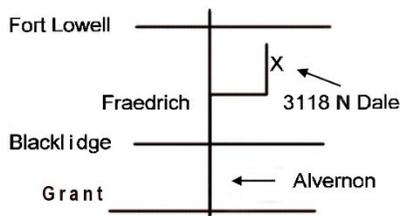
Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Summer Dates: From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

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 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.