

“CUTTING REMARKS”

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

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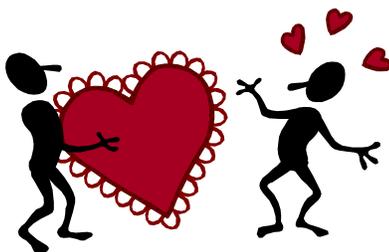
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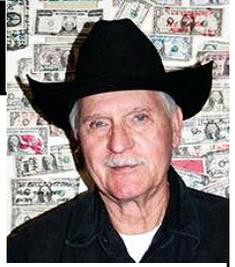
Wayne Klement 954-6298

There will be **NO**
meeting in February
due to activities
associated with the
Tucson Gem Show.
See you at the next
meeting - **March 3rd.**



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 20th of each month. Thanks!

THE PREZ SEZ by Pete Peterson



February is a very active month for rockhounds and gem and mineral collectors in Tucson.

The Old Pueblo Lapidary Club will be the meeting place for a United States Faceting Guild (USFG) seminar on the 3rd of February. Following this on the evening of the February 4th, we will be hosting the Hob Nob event. The Hob Nob brings faceters from all over the world to meet, exchange ideas, exhibit new equipment and generally have a good time socializing. There is also a competition for the best cut in natural and synthetic stones. The first place winner in each category gets a plaque.

OPLC will have a demonstration booth at the Tucson Convention Center during the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show from February 9th thru the 12th. Be sure to stop by and see demonstrations on cabling, faceting, chain making, and wax carving for casting at various times. The city of Tucson is filled with all sorts of Gem and Mineral displays, machinery, tools of every description, as well as fossils, gems and rough from all over the world. This year the show is featuring Minerals of Arizona to celebrate the 100th anniversary of our Statehood.

We have some disturbing news to report. Ron Davidson is back the VA hospital. This stay is likely to be for several months due to continuing problems associated with his knee replacement. All of us at OPLC will surely miss him in our labs and classes. Wishing you all the best Ron, from all your friends. See you during visiting hours.

In the interim while Ron is recuperating we will need personnel to fill in for his class and monitoring days. Give me or a Board member a call or email if you could teach or monitor a silver or cabling lab.

Enjoy all the Gem shows this month as well as the Rodeo, Golf tournament, and the Super Bowl.

Remember there will be no meeting in February and the March meeting is the first Saturday instead of the usual second Saturday.

Keep bringing your soda cans to the Club, they help pay bills.

See you at the March meeting on Saturday the 3rd.

Pete

MARCH PRESENTATION ON OBSIDIAN TRADE IN CHACO CANYON

The speaker for the March 3rd OPLC meeting will be Jeremy Moss, chief of Resource Management at Tumacacori National Historic Site, Tumacacori, Arizona. He was formerly with the Chaco Canyon National Historical Park. Mr. Moss will make a presentation on "The Obsidian Trade in Chaco Culture". Helen Serras-Herman recommended Mr. Moss after being very impressed with his presentation at an archaeology club meeting. Mark your calendar and be sure to attend! (Reminder: The March meeting is the first Saturday in March because many OPLC members attend the Deming, NM Rock show during the second weekend in March.)

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JANUARY MEETING MINUTES... by Pat McMullen, Secretary

At our first meeting of 2012, Vice President Bill Carmody introduced our speaker Bob Cardell. Bob is a retired Lt.



Colonel in the Marines Corp. and past President of the Southern Arizona Hiking Club in Tucson. We had a fascinating presentation on the Crested Saguaros. Bob and his associate, Pat Hammes, have documented over 1,900 Crested Saguaros in the state of Arizona.

At the end of the presentation President Pete called for a short break prior to the general meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00a.m.

The minutes of the December meeting were unanimously approved.

New members in attendance were Don Morin, Rick and Lynette Day, and Bobby Howard. They all share an interest in rocks. Curtis and Helen King were attending as visitors. Welcome to all the new people.

Diana Hara, our treasurer was asked to give the financial report and explain the new 2012 budget. We used 84% of our 2011 budget which is less than the previous year. Our income was a negative \$25.00, very good considering the lapidary room was shut down for about a month. Increases in the 2012 budget were minimal and if last year is any indication we shouldn't exceed our projected 2012 budget.

Diana brought up the subject of T-shirts that we had turned down earlier due to excessive cost. We originally approved \$800.00 in last year's budget for T-shirts but were unable to find a vendor that would sell for a cost we were willing to accept. She has several new sources that seem to be more in line with what we originally budgeted for. More on this later when she has some figures to present to the membership.

A motion to approve the budget was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Pete thanked Bill Carmody for his service as Vice President for the last two years with a big round of applause.

The signup sheets for the TGMS Show will be available today in the kitchen area for volunteers

Murray Hiller announced the signup sheets for the Pima County Fair in April are available in the kitchen area. Volunteers are needed for this fun event.

Our New Vice President, Jean Barkley, was introduced as well as our new Advertising Chair, Melinda Thompson. Twink Monrad will take over the duties of selling raffle tickets at the meeting.

Mike DeMeritt will have a new open lapidary lab on Sundays starting tomorrow along with Ron Davidson's silversmithing lab.

Our February meeting will not be held due to the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show and our participation. Our March meeting will be held on the first Saturday of the month due to the many members who will be attending the annual Deming Rockhound Roundup which takes place March 10th the second Saturday of March.

Diana encouraged all new members to signup for the TGMS and Pima County Fair Shows as they provide an opportunity to meet new people and for the information they

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provide. Charles Reece mentioned that members will be doing demonstrations.

Charles will have his sphere making machine working again, a must see.

Pete introduced the instructors/monitors who were present: Abe Lackow - silversmithing, Ray Brown - silversmithing, Mike DeMeritt - lapidary, Chuck Lundstrom - casting, John Poole - silversmithing, Jim Griffin - sawing and Danny Harmson - lapidary.

Abe Lackow wanted to remind people to sign up for treats at the meetings for the upcoming months.

Helen Serras Herman gave VP Jean Barkley a lead for a future speaker, an archeologist from Tumacacori. Helen will be giving a lecture during the TGMS Show and encouraged all to attend as an official badge is not necessary. Her lecture will be on February 3rd at 1:00 p.m. at the Tucson Convention Center.

Ron Davidson's report on

grounds and safety: "no break ins and no breakouts".

Jerry Glazman announced the trip to Karchner Caves is on for the Big Room. Dr. Bob will conduct our tour as of now. The price is \$18.96 for anyone not yet signed up. Tickets must be paid for today. Parking for the event is free.

Jerry Behn gave a report on the Duquesne Wash field trip that was a wonderful day with a large attendance and everyone finding something of interest.

Field trip chair Bob ODonnell announced a trip to the Rosemont Mine for a tour and rockhounding in March. Signup sheets will available when the exact date is established.

Twink Monrad, the Club Historian/Librarian, announced people are now using the library and she has all the books organized.

Shiela Powell, Education chair, has acquired lots of materials to use as give-aways for kid's education.

Wayne Klement, Membership chair made a final announcement to fill out the

2012 membership renewal form if you have not already done so.

Pete informed the membership that no visitors or non-members can attend any Club field trips due to liability concerns per the RMFS, our insurance provider.

Danny Harmson's report indicated the Silent Auction was, as usual, "excellent" with a good supply of material coming in.

Jerry Glazman was in S. Dakota's western area where the local rock club members have business cards with all the information regarding their club, phone number, website and address. Something to think about!

Bill Carmody presided over the swearing in ceremony for the 2012 Club officers:

Pete Peterson, President; Jean Barkley, Vice President; Diana Hara, Treasurer; Pat McMullen, Secretary; Skip Barkley and Murray Hiller, Board Members.

The door prize winner was Terry Bibbens

President Peterson adjourned the meeting.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



**Kate Davis
Lynette Day
Rick Day**

**Bill Kennedy
Kathy Kennedy
Robert Lee**

**Aysha Martin
Aaron Savory**



Bill Carmody swearing in the Officers and a Board Member: (l-r) Jean Barkley, Vice President, Murray Hiller, Board Member, Pete Peterson, President, Pat McMullen, Secretary, and Diane Hara, Treasurer. All have re-upped for another term in their present positions except for Jean.

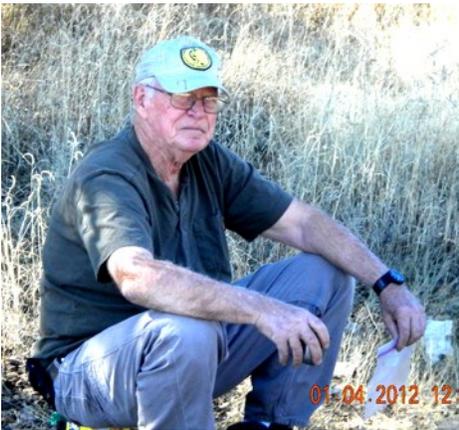
This picture is included to dispel any rumors that the Officers and Board members don't get along.

DUSQUESNE WASH FIELD TRIP, January 4, 2012

Trip Arranged by Jerry Behn, pictures contributed by Diana Hara and Pat McMullen



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(refreshments served)

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UA Mineral Museum

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7:00 – 9:00 pm

Exhibit Open House

Exhibit continues through January 2013

Western Diamondback Rattlesnake

The Western Diamondback Rattlesnake, or *Crotalus atrox*, a member of the family Viperidae, the subfamily Crotalinae, and the genus *Crotalus*, has such a hold on the human psyche that it has been a symbol of the American Southwest from prehistoric into historic times. It figures in ancient mythology, ceramics and rock art and in modern story and media.

The King of the Southwestern Rattlers



The Western Diamondback, which can exceed seven feet in length, is the king of our twenty odd species and sub-species of Southwestern desert rattlers, not only in terms of size, but also in terms of its fearsome reputation.

Malevolently handsome, its basic color ranges from brown to gray to pinkish, depending on the shade of its habitat. Its back is lined with dark diamond-shaped blotches outlined by lighter-colored scales. Its head is distinguished by two dark stripes, one on each side of its face, which run diagonally, like Zorro's mask, from its eyes back to its jaws. Its tail is circled by several alternating black and white bands, like the pattern of a raccoon's tail. Its patterns are most

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distinctive when the snake is young and are more faded, blurred and camouflaged when it is older.

Like its brethren – a clan of some 100 species of poisonous snakes generally called "pit vipers" – the Western Diamondback comes equipped with a spade-shaped head, a fiendish fang and venom system, elliptical pupils and heat-sensing facial pits. It has reserve fangs to replace any which break off in a victim. The venom causes extensive tissue damage, bleeding and swelling in humans. The pits, in effect, infrared detectors, guide the snake swiftly and surely to warm blooded prey such as rodents, even in the total darkness of the animals' burrows. Its rattles – a distinguishing feature it shares only with other rattlesnakes – grows segment by segment, each rattle the keratin remnant of a shed skin. It can add two or three rattles each year, with each molt, although it may also break off some of its rattles in the course of a year.

Unlike the Black Tailed Rattler, which tends to be lethargic, or the Rock Rattler, which tends to be excitable but non-aggressive, the Western Diamondback will coil, rattle fearsomely, and stand its ground when threatened. It bites hundreds of people a year, more than any other venomous snake in the United States. It hunts from late evening to early morning, crawling either sinuously like other snakes or rectilinearly like a caterpillar.

Eating and Being Eaten

Like other rattlers, the Western Diamondback takes up residence among communities of small mammals such as prairie dogs, rabbits, gophers, chipmunks, ground squirrels, mice and rats, the more the better, usually hunting at night. It ambushes victims along their trails or attacks them in their burrows, sometimes striking and swallowing an animal which weighs more than the snake itself. Given the opportunity, the snake will also eat birds. After feeding, the snake can go several weeks before feeding again.

The Western Diamondback, especially the juvenile, often comes under attack itself. It may become a meal for an eagle, a hawk, a roadrunner or a wild turkey; for a kingsnake or a whipsnake; or for a coyote, a fox, a badger or a feral hog. Regarded as an enemy and a threat, it may be trampled to death by a deer, an antelope, a cow, a horse or even a sheep. The Western Diamondback lives in a rough neighborhood.

Habitat and Range

The snake occupies diverse habitats from sea level to 7000 feet, ranging from desert flats to rocky hillsides, grassy plains, forested areas, river bottoms and coastal prairies. (Yes, the snake can swim quite nicely, holding its rattles above the water to keep them dry.) Its range spans much of Arkansas, most of Texas and Oklahoma, the southern parts of New Mexico and Arizona, the southern tip of California, and the northern parts of Mexico's Chihuahua and Sonora.

Reproduction

The Western Diamondback male, like the males of most species, become obsessed with females at mating time, in the spring. He pursues the female incessantly. Should he encounter another male, the two will wrap around each other in a serpentine wrestling contest, rearing and falling and body slamming until one or the other concedes defeat. Once inseminated, the female, sexually mature at three years old, will bear her brood live, in late summer. The young are born complete with fangs and venom, armed and dangerous at birth. A good thing. The mother abandons them upon delivery.

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Denning

With the coming of the shortening days and falling temperatures of autumn, the Western Diamondbacks head for the community den – a cave or rocky recess – where they will hibernate for the winter. In colder areas, they come by the hundreds; in warmer areas, by the dozens. They emerge in spring, sexually driven, hungry and mean.

True or False?

1. The Western Diamondback always rattles to warn a victim.
2. The snake rattles to dispense a poisonous dust into the air.
3. It can charm a bird out of a tree.
4. It imprints its appearance on the fetal child of a pregnant woman.
5. It can grow to be ten or even twelve feet long.
6. It swallows its young to protect them from harm.
7. It will not crawl across a horse-hair rope.
8. Its venom, flesh, skin or rattles can cure various human diseases and wounds.
9. Its eyes, clouded by a loosening skin prior to shedding, impair its vision.
10. It can live for more than twenty years.
11. Its age corresponds to the number of its rattles.
12. Its venom can retain its potency for years.

(1-8, false; 9 and 10, true; 11, false; 12, true)

Jay W. Sharp

Reprinted from *Deseret News*, DesertUSA.com



Its tail is circled by several alternating black and white bands.

Rattlesnake Statistics

- Approximately 8,000 people a year receive venomous snakebites in the U.S., 9-15 victims die. (FDA)
- 25% of adult rattlesnake bites are dry, with no venom injected. (Brown, 1997)
- Rattlesnakes can only strike a distance equal to 1/2 their own length



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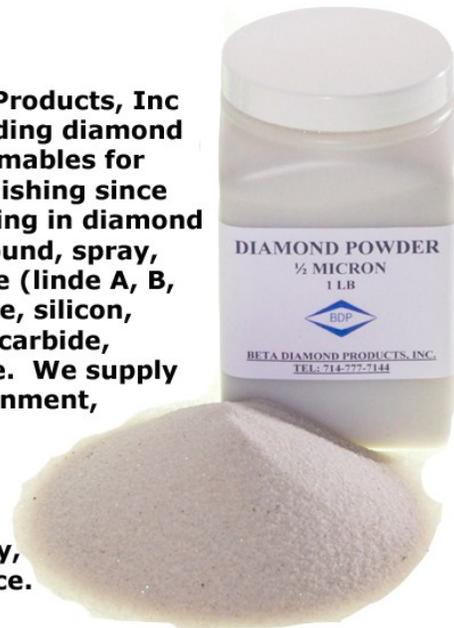
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Ad Expires June 2012

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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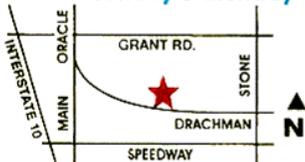
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- **Colorwright** - 520-624-4401 Web address: <http://www.color-wright.com/>, **MAILING ADDRESS:** 1520 S Desert Crest Dr., Tucson, AZ 85713. Amount of discount depends on item(s) being purchased.
- **Jay's of Tucson** - 30% discount excluding orange tag items, sterling silver sheet and wire. 520-323-1123 (corner of Speedway & Swan)
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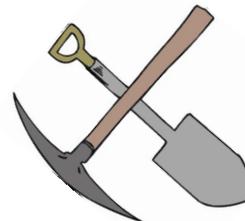
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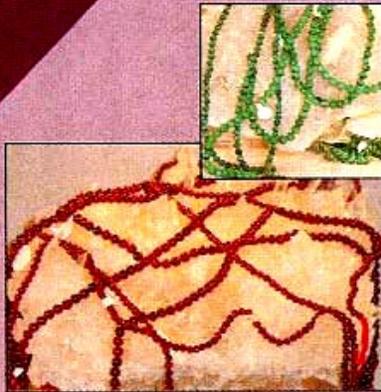
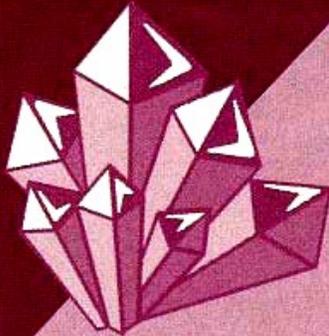
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WEEKLY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE Phone 323-9154

Mondays

1PM - 4PM **Faceting Guild** (Exp. Facetors Only)

Monitor - Paul Head 296-0331

1PM - 4PM **Silversmith Lab**

Monitor - Lou Akerman 290-696

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

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**

(BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)

Monitor - Jim Baker 886-2126

Fridays

9AM - Noon **Cabbing**

Monitor - Dan Harmsen 721-8452

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

Sundays - - **NEW DAY!!!!**

12PM - 4PM **Open Labs**

Mike Demeritt - Cabbing - 203-8430

COMMITTEES

ADVERTISING

Melinda Thompson 730-3082

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & EQUIPMENT

Ron Davidson 749-3157

Dave Arens 749-2413

CLASSES & PROGRAMS

Jean Barkley 546-1651

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

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General Membership

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Twink Monrad 297-9454

MEMBERSHIP

Wayne Klement 954-6298

SECURITY

Ron Davidson 749-3157

SILENT AUCTION

Dan Harmsen 721-8452

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 (Cutting Remarks - Feb 2012)
 3118 N. Dale
 Tucson, AZ 85712
 (520) 323-9154

OPLC Membership Application - Please Print

Name1 _____ Name 2 _____ Date _____

Local Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip Code _____ Phone number (____) _____

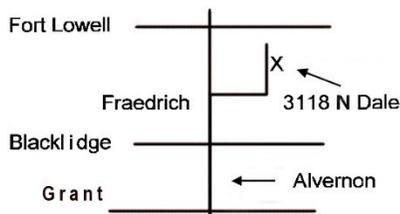
Email address _____ Summer Dates: From _____ To _____

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 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.