# **"CUTTING REMARKS"**

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

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Please join us on June 12th for the next monthly meeting. Optional social hour begins at 8:00am followed by the educational program at 9:00am followed by the monthly meeting. Visitors are always welcome.



Wayne Klement 954-6298





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 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Thanks!

See us online at: www.lapidaryclub.org

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

As my wife and I were leaving the club after the last meeting, we noticed Jerry and Anneliese Foley cleaning up the last of the tree trimmings from the parking lot. Thank you, Jerry and Anneliese.

I also want to thank Bobo O'Donnell for arranging for the speaker at the May meeting.

Our new secretary, Pat McMullen, is home from the hospital and recovering from a serious infection. Pat says he is feeling better and healing with the help of "good drugs". Harrison Yokum is recovering from his surgery at a rehab facility and hoping to return to his home near the end of the month. And Lou, the fellow who

injured his finger in the silver lab, is healing well, too. We wish them all a speedy recovery.

I would like to start a "sick call" list and have it in the news letter every month. If you know of a member that is ill or recovering, let me know so they can be included in the "Cutting Remarks" newsletter. Please make sure it is okay with that person before calling me as I won't be verifying your information.

By the time you read this the Mechanical room retrofit, new roof, and cooler relocation will be complete - on time and under budget and ready for the June meeting.

Summer is here and club activities slow down, the snow



birds head north, the weather gets hotter and fewer people show up for meetings. However, the labs are less crowded and equipment is more readily available. Now is a good time for us locals to get our projects done.

Remember to bring your soda cans to the Club. It really helps our finances.

That is all for now folks. Be safe and have fun collecting and polishing rocks.

Pete

# MAY MEETING MINUTES ...... By Pat Mc Mullen & Diana Hara

Ed Note: Due to Pat's recent illness, Diana collaborated with Pat to get the minutes compiled in time for the newsletter..... Thanks Diana.

A quorum was present for the May meeting. Minutes from April were approved.

Rod Mondt from the Sky Island Alliance gave a presentation on the importance of protecting our mountain islands and desert seas.

The Club welcomed visitors Brian and Yolanda Busse, rock hounding guides from Colorado, and new members Rick Franz and Mary Lisa Orth.

Pete announced that Diana would be treasurer for the remainder of the year. He thanked Shiela Powell for all her efforts over the past six months. Pat McMullen will be the taking over as Secretary for the remainder of the year.

**OLD BUSINESS** 

announced that he

Pete

had received quotes from two contractors for the mechanical room roof repair. The quotes include moving the cooler, duct work, and bringing the electrical wiring up to code. One quote was for \$2,300 and the other was for \$2,800. The quote to put in a new roof was for about Cont'd on top of next page ..

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# .....Meeting Minutes Cont'd from prior page .....

\$1000. The total cost will be approximately \$3,500. Shiela Powell took the floor and asked the membership to consider adding AC while we were making repairs. Pete Peterson said that he had talked to the HVAC contractors, and they did not feel the Club would make their money back for the amount membership fee). The Board of time actually spent in the clubhouse. Bill Carmody made a motion to approve \$5,000 for this repair. Dave Witwer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Pete also mentioned that there is loose sheet metal on the roof of the clubhouse that will also need to be repaired.

Murray Hiller took the floor and expressed his appreciation for all the volunteers who helped to make the Pima County Fair a success. Bill Carmody then asked for a round of applause for Murray and all the work he put in to organize the fair and assure that the whole event ran smoothly.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Pete brought up the topic of increasing membership dues for 2011 to get feedback from Club members. The Board discussed increasing dues for a new 'Single' membership from \$20 to

\$25. The 'Single' renewal fee will go from \$15 to \$20. New 'Couple' membership fees will go from \$30 to \$35. Renewal fees for a 'Couple' membership will go from \$20 to \$25. The junior membership fee would remain the same (After reviewing the by-laws for documenting the minutes, let it be noted that the junior membership fee is accessed to be half of a senior discussed increasing membership fees after reviewing the Club finances and determining that we are just breaking even in the shop. They also wanted to use the fee increase to help offset the cost of mailing newsletters at the first class rate to those who prefer a hardcopy. Since most people receive their newsletter via email, the Club does not mail enough newsletters to use bulk rate anymore. Bill Carmody voiced his concern about raising dues and we have yet to see what the Silent Auction for 2010 will bring in. Rim Tallat-Kelpsa also expressed concern over the total cost of a family membership when they must pay for a Couple membership as well as Junior memberships. Pete said the Board will take the feedback into future Board meetings. If and when dues are increased, it will have to be

voted on and passed by the membership according to the by-laws.

Pete asked for a report from each committee:

TREASURER'S REPORT – Diana Hara reported that the Club is 'in the black' through the end of the first quarter. The lion's share of revenue came from membership dues in January. The shop is breaking even – the shop passes, classes, and saw room have covered first quarter shop expenses.

FIELD TRIPS – Wolfgang Mueller said that there are no trips planned at this time. There were inquiries made about trips to Mission Mine and the Silverbell mine, but both are postponed at present.

SILENT AUCTION – Progress is 'excellent' as usual.

JUNIOR EDUCATION – Pat did not have an update for this month.

LIBRARY – Pete Peterson commended Susette Fleming for all the work she has done to get our library re-organized!

KITCHEN – There was no update this month.

George Salwaechter took the floor to let the Club know about

Cont'd on top of next page ...

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

some lapidary items that are for sale. A friend of his in Green Valley has lapidary equipment that he would like to sell together for \$500. If you are interested, contact George.

Bill Carmody announced an educational program at the Sonoran Desert Museum on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Sonya Norman will give a special discount (\$25) to

program will include instruction on micro-mounts, a tour of the museum grounds, and a chance to look in the mineral vault.

Pete Peterson talked about the Rocky Mountain Federation trip coming up in June. They will meet at Blue Forrest, Wyoming in the southwest corner of the state. Brian Busse will lead the Colorado trip to Mount Antaro. Peridot and

interested OPLC members. The smokey quartz are among the many minerals to be found. Brian has been a guide through this area for 15 years and won't disappoint! You must be a TGMS member to go on the Colorado trip.

> There were no items in the jewelry contest this month.

The meeting was closed and the drawing began. George Lueras won the door prize.

#### **GRAVEYARD POINT PLUME AGATE**

Graveyard Point Plume Agate has been around for many years and is still collected by Rock Hounds at the site. I'd say about 98% of the this agate that sells on Ebay is not worthy of the name. Most Graveyard for sale is what rock hounds find on the surface. This material has been exposed to the elements which tends to make it fractured, stained and cloudy, or stuff that was mined but no one else wants. Thus, giving the agate a bad name. When people buy it online and see the junk that they bought they assume all Graveyard is junk.

Another way the agate has been getting bad press is that people most often don't know how to cut or cab it right to show the beautiful plumes. Thus the cabs are very unattractive and boring. See this example:



The current mining claim owner wisely changed a certain section of the mine where the prime pink plume comes from to Regency Rose. The beautiful colored plumes of pink, yellow and white make it more desirable although it has been around since the beginning of the mining back in the early 70's. I even know cabbers who call there works something entirely something different in order to get around the bad press Graveyard has gotten.

The only way to buy Graveyard rough is to have it in your hands using your own eye balls or someone who knows how to pick out the bad from the good. Slabbing Graveyard is tricky. You want the plumes to show but you don't want to cut directly into the plume itself because sometimes plumes tend to be softer and will undercut. If that does not bother you then it's OK. But, you cut in front of the embedded plume just enough so that you cab down to it and have a thin layer or agate on top of it. You'll probably have to cut a few slabs in order to see just the right plume you want. So, if you are going to try Graveyard, I'd suggest buying the rough and cutting it yourself or buy slabs from someone who knows how to cut it for cabbing.

Good Luck!

Philip Stephenson

#### THE 1970'S PET ROCKS CRAZE, HISTORY OF THE PET ROCK

Gary Dahl, a Californian, came up with the idea of a pet rock in 1975 after talking with friends about how pets were too much trouble and cost too much money. He said a pet rock was an ideal pet - easy and cheap. Dahl spent the next two weeks writing the Pet Rock Training Manual - a stepby-step guide about taking care of it and how to train it. He went to a builder's supply store and found a Rosarita Beach Stone that sold for a penny. He packed the stone in a box shaped like a pet carrying case along with the book. The Pet Rock was introduced at a gift show, where the store, Neiman-Marcus ordered five hundred. After a news release showing Gary surrounded by boxes of his Pet Rocks, Newsweek did a story and within a few months was shipping ten thousand Pet Rocks every day. He even appeared on The Tonight Show, twice. By Christmas that year, two and a half tons of rocks had been sold, three-fourths off all the newspapers in America had run Pet Rock stories. A million rocks sold for \$3.95 apiece in just a few months making Gary Dahl an instant millionaire. The story of the Pet Rock is a never-ending source of inspiration to create new crazes that sweep the nation and make millions for the genius who thought of them.

Source: Encyclopedia of POP Culture, by Jane and Michael Stern. Harper Perennial Press 1992 via Rockytier Jan 2009

#### MISCELLANEOUS:

- "You think dogs will not be in heaven? I tell you, they will be there long before any of us." Robert Louis Stevenson
- 'He is your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog. You are his life, his love, his leader. He will be yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart. You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion.' Author Unknown
- You cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late. -- Ralph Waldo Emerson
- A hobbyist says when sawing rocks or other greasy things, he must wash his hands a lot. Soap requires several washings -- even lava soap. One day he accidentally squeezed his wife's lotion instead of the soap dispenser, and found that the oil washed off in one application and his hands smelled like lotion instead of ALMAG! He used Jergens® extra dry lotion and rinsed in plain water.

Source: Chats and Chips, 4/2007, via The Backbender's Gazette, 2/2009 via Blue Agate News March 2009

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#### **ROCKHOUNDING CLUES & TIPS**

#### BY C. E. JOHNSON, VIA THE "EL GAMBRISINO", 4/10 via Rocky Mountain News, May 2010

There are many clues out there in the field to guide us; we just need to know what they are and what they mean, and, of course, we need to be observant and curious. Assuming that we are already out there in the field, anything that appears uncommon or odd such as rust or stains, sudden changes in color of rock or its grain-size, or differences in compositions, may be worth investigating closely. For instance, rust or stains could be oxidation products of mineral deposits containing one or more metal bearing minerals such as those of iron, copper, lead, zinc, uranium, tungsten, manganese, nickel, cobalt, molybdenium, Bismutch, and silver (in the form of a chloride). Metal-bearing deposits indicate a mineralized area. So whether or not you are interested in the metals, such an area is very much worth investigating for other types of minerals.

However, even many of those metallic minerals often occur in very attractive forms, whether beautifully crystallized or not. Sudden changes in color of a rock formation could mean segregations or differentiations of some of the rock's accessory minerals (which are more desirable or valuable than the usual, common "rock-making" minerals). Hydrothermal alteration of parts of the rock formations is a good indicator of mineralizing solutions in the area.

Any increase in texture or grain size of an intrusive igneous rock formation, such as one of the granite family, would be especially encouraging for several reasons. One or more of the rock's accessory minerals would be especially valuable in larger sizes, and such rock formations often breed pegmatities, which are always worth exploring because of the special, valuable minerals which typically occur in large sizes and often very well crystallized. Most of us

are familiar with quartz or calcite vein material and the significance of it.

The presence of certain indicator minerals and other clues are always a plus. Lava flows with many cavities (or "bubble holes") are fairly obvious, and they are often happy-huntingground for agate material and zeolite crystals. Our best clues are rock formations; if we are familiar with them, areas may be chosen before leaving home simply by using geologic maps which describe the types of rock formations shown in any particular area. However, with or without a geologic map, the usual clues as described above are standard procedure for rockhounds and prospectors.

We have rock formations wherever we go, and the types of formations determine whether or not any of the above clues will exist in the area, what those clues will be, and what minerals to expect. Leaning enough about rocks and minerals to be able to use geologic maps as a valuable tool is the best approach to rockhounding and prospecting, and I highly recommend it. This and your visits to the pay-to-dig collecting sites compliment each other perfectly. There are many potential areas out there, and geologic maps are a great help in choosing which areas are favorable for which type of minerals before leaving home and will guide you in the field. It's not necessary to be familiar with rock formations to explore for minerals, but if you are naturally curious and enjoy exploring, do yourself a favor and take samples and make notes of those curious-looking areas while traveling to and from those pay-to-dig collecting sites. Find out what your rock samples are and what relationship they may have with the kinds of minerals. There should be someone in your club or community that you can ask about it such as schools or libraries, universities or colleges, local USGS offices, Bureau of Land Management, of Forestry Service offices, etc. Happy hunting!

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vacationrentals.com/vacation-rentals/28495.html



Photo of clubhouse

Norman Crane: 3 sets of bookends, slabs and petrified wood.

DONATIONS

 Paul Head: clock/cassette radio, stereo receiver, tape/cd player, 4-small motors, 2-taper lock bushings, 6-ball & roller bearings, battery clock motor, white coral, and other miscellaneous hardware.

- Shiela Powell belt buckle blanks (ovals & rectangles)
- Anonymous donation beading wire and small buffing wheels.

Thanks, everyone, for keeping the Club in mind.

#### 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 at 760-8598 or Dan Harmsen at 721-8452.

### DID YOU KNOW?

 Diamonds, emeralds, rubies and topaz are formed from molten rocks.



- Amethyst, turquoise, opal and quartz are formed from ground water evaporation.
- Staurolite and garnet are formed by metamorphic re-crystallization.
- Jade is the most durable gemstone.
- Amber, pearl, opal and turquoise scratch easily. Use care when wearing.

## FIELD TRIP HINTS:

For field tripping in areas with no water, carry a can of shaving cream, push-button type, for cleaning hands. A squirt, a washing motion of the hands, then wipe off. Presto! Clean hands!



From http:// www.sarmclub.com Santa Ana Rock and Mineral Club via Rock Chips April 2010

Ad Expires February 2010

Ad Expires May 2011



# **MONEY SAVING DISCOUNTS**

- DAH Rock Shop 10% on most items. See ad in this issue. 520-323-0781
  3401 Dodge Blvd, Tucson
- <u>Colorwright</u> Amount of discount depends on item(s) being purchased. 520-623-3874
  1201 North Main Avenue, Tucson 85705
- Jay's of Tucson 10% discount. 520-323-1123 (corner of Speedway & Swan)
  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
  566 Ash, Globe, AZ 85501
- <u>Kent's Tools</u> 10% 520-624-8098
  133 E Grant Road, Tucson
- <u>Tucson Mineral & Gem World</u> 10% 520-883-0682 Web address: www.tucsonmineral.com
  2801 South Kinney Road, Tucson

#### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS **SALE STILL GOING ON !!** David Dickinson **ROCKS & ROCK SLABS FOR SALE Richard Franz** Ron Davidson - 9219 E. Kayenta Mary-Lisa Orth Agates, Petrified Wood, Picture Jasper, Claudette Perier • Thunder Eggs, Obsidian, Geodes, Slabs, and much, much, more. Call 749-3157 to arrange for an appointment to preview items desired. Ad Expires February 2011 MONTHLY JEWELRY CONTESTS In order for members to better plan for future monthly contests, here is the schedule for each category by month: May - Brooch January - Bolo Tie August - Faceted Stone November - Bracelet March - Belt Buckle June - Cabochon September - Chain December - Xmas April - Necklace July - Charm October - Pendent Brunch No entries submitted in May.



LAPIDARY EQUIPMENT - STERLING SILVER JEWELRY - BOOKS - SLABS -ROUGH STONES - BEADING SUPPLIES - SILVERSMITH TOOLS

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#### WEEKLY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE Phone 323-9154

#### <u>Mondays</u>

- 1PM 4PM **Faceting Guild** (Exp. Facetors Only) Monitor - Paul Head 296-0331
- 1PM 4PM **Silversmith Lab** Monitor - Lou Akerman 290-6968
- 6PM 9PM Beginning Faceting Monitor - Earl Zoeller 886-3518

#### <u>Tuesdays</u>

- 9AM Noon **Cabbing** Monitor - John Poole 777-5588
- 9AM Noon **Silversmithing Lab** Contact 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 888-8719

#### <u>Thursdays</u>

- 10AM 1PM Rock Sawing Monitor - Jim Baker 886-2126
- 1PM 4PM Beginning Cabbing Monitor - Frank Beaven 1-810-919-5545

#### (Will reopen in the Fall)

6PM - 9PM **Silversmithing** Monitor - Ron Davidson 749-3157

#### <u>Fridays</u>

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

#### (Will reopen October 1, 2010)

#### <u>Saturdays</u>

- 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 <u>BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & EQUIPMENT</u> Ron Davidson 749-3157 Dave Arens 749-2413 <u>CLASSES & PROGRAMS</u> Bill Carmody 760-8598

#### CLUB HISTORIAN

To Be Announced

#### FIELD TRIPS

Wolfgang Mueller 896-3197 JUNIOR EDUCATION Gretchen Arnaiz 747-1511 Sheila Powell 578-1976

# <u>KITCHEN</u>

General Membership

#### <u>LIBRARIAN</u>

Susette Flemings 741-2275

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

Wayne Klement 954-6298 SECURITY

Ron Davidson 749-3157

#### SILENT AUCTION

Dan Harmsen 721-8452

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club (Cutting Remarks - Jun 2010) 3118 N. Dale Tucson, AZ 85712 (520) 323-9154

OPLC Membership Application - Please Print								
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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.