

“CUTTING REMARKS”

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

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Please join us **May 13th** at 9:00am for the 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, Mike DeMeritt (silverlininggemstones@gmail.com), or feel free to call him at 520-203-8430 or (520) 240-5133. Submission deadline is the 20th of each month. Thanks!

THE PREZ SEZ by David Schulte



May is almost upon us and the weather is warming up a tad again. There are some great improvements going on at the club thanks to the help from some of our volunteers and the membership's agreement to spend some of the club's money on upgrades to equipment and facilities. Our business meeting for May will be held on Friday, 4/5/17. Our next business meeting after that will be held on Friday, June 2nd, 2017.

Both of the two 12 inch Highland Park slab saws and the two new 6 inch oil trim saws are up and running in the cab lab. Due to the fact that the cutting blades remain immersed in liquid for the trim saws we decided to delegate both of the new saws as oil saws rather than using one as a new water saw. I will be asking the membership to replace the old water saw at our next meeting. I will also be presenting a long term plan for other club facility upgrades and improvements once the board has approved the ideas as requested by one of our members at our last club meeting. The two new Gennie machines have been delivered along with new wheels and pumps as required for all of the machines in the cab lab. The new wheels and pumps will be installed starting on 5/2/17. We have a table donated by Rod Allen (thanks!) to install the two new Gennie's on at a height compatible with wheel chair access. These will be in place during the week of 5/2/17 as well.

The bench in the silver lab that was damaged due to misuse of equipment has been repaired. The mini splits for heating and cooling the main meeting room building are up and running. TEP is rebating us over \$2000 for the installation of the more efficient mini splits and this money will go back into the club's account. We are waiting on the bid from TEP and the electrician to have a new power panel installed in the training building to allow the vent installation and new power drops in that building. This will be brought before the membership before work is started. We have folks that have volunteered to help paint the vent seal covers once the ceiling texture is repaired from the drop ceiling re-

pair and do some other repairs and improvements around the club (we are still looking for more help so contact David Schulte if you are interested in helping out at the club!). A light switch has been installed for the two west display cabinets on the new stands to allow us all to enjoy the arrow heads and the other rock inlay work done by previous members. We have purchased a new door for the water heater closet and this will be hung during May. A grab bar has been installed in the woman's bathroom (thanks to Johnathan Ziegler).

The field trip to Cottonwood to view Pat McMahon's amazing agate collection (over 8000 samples beautifully displayed and labeled) and his work shop (18 oil rock saws, up to 36 inches in diameter!) was truly amazing last month. He had some great rocks and slabs for sale and a number of members got some great deals on new material to cut and polish. Some of our members that wanted to go were unable to come on the trip for various reasons and we might do another field trip up there in fall. I definitely think that the trip was well worth it and encourage other members to plan on coming if he opens up his home to us again. The club now has a copy of Pat's agate collection book in the library for those of you that want to take a look at some pictures of a "small portion" of his collection.

Our speaker this month will be Gregory McNamee. Gregory McNamee is a Tucson-based historian and author and will present "Arizona Place Names: Stories of the Land". This should be a really great trivia information to share with our friends.

I'll see you all at 8 am, May 13th, 2017 for treats and coffee followed by the club meeting starting at 9:00 AM. Remember to wear your OPLC badge to the meeting to get a free raffle ticket with the purchase of some more of them.

David

Front Cover Pictures: Those with May birthdays celebrate the gem variety of Beryl commonly known as **Emerald**. This Australian **Chrysoprase** is really chalcedony replacing nickel-colored mud.

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PRIOR MONTH'S MEETING MINUTES... Twink Monrad, Secretary



OPLC MONTHLY MEETING APRIL 8, 2017

The meeting was brought to order at 10:05 by President David Schulte.

There were 7 new members and guests introduced.

David thanked our speaker, Dwight Thibodeaux, a Rio Rico historian who talked about prehistoric Rio Rico.

Several members were thanked for giving their volunteer time: Don Morin for taking care of the sump at the labs, Mike Tucker for setting up the new slab and trim saws and also for getting the large saws back up and running in the saw room, and Mike DeMeritt for ordering wheels, pumps and belts for the cab lab and also for getting an estimate to have the two faceting machines repaired. The new wheels which cost \$8,100 will be installed within the next month.

Wayne Klement was thanked for arranging for members of the Detectors Unlimited Club to use metal detectors and magnets in the parking lots to remove lots of nails, screws and other pieces of metal which can cause flat tires.

The mini splits for heating and cooling are up and running. Barricades on the north side of the building will be added. TEP may refund some money to the Club for the more efficient AC equipment. The cost for electric upgrade was \$1600 instead of the \$700 originally budgeted so the electric upgrade in the labs is put on hold for now. A member voiced the opinion that this also needs to be done ASAP so the labs will be able to handle new equipment. TEP needs to give their approval and this will need to be approved by the membership.

Display cabinet stands for the meeting room are now installed and a light switch will be added.

The hole in the meeting room roof has been repaired.

The two trim saws, slab saws and two new Genies have arrived and are being installed. A new wheel chair accessible table is required and will be installed.

Bids have been received for twice monthly cleaning of the three bathrooms and one will be selected.

David will be asking the Board to help prepare a projected capital outlay budget since there are other things that the Club will need as time goes on. A member asked about ventilation in the classrooms.

Filters and blowers are needed. Another suggestion was to buy another Genie for use or as a back up.

NEW PRICES ON LAB CARDS: As soon as all of the cards which the monitors have are given out, the new cards will reflect a price increase: New cards will be \$40 or \$2.00 per hour and the cash price for cards will be \$3.00 per hour. Still a bargain as a member said!

Concepts for raising more money for the Club: We may have a special raffle a couple of times a year featuring items donated by businesses or advertisers in Cutting Remarks. Items of a higher value will be selected bi-annually and raffled off to Club members. This idea is a work in progress.

MEMBERS USING THE LABS: A new procedure will require all members to be signed off for use of equipment in each of our labs. Retraining if required will be available from the lab monitors. The Club will retain a list of all members approved for all labs. Once a member is signed off for that lab use, he or she will be financially responsible for any damage to the lab equipment resulting from misuse or negligence on the part of the member. The monitors will enforce these rules. If a member does not pay for damaged equipment they will be excluded from using that lab until restitution is made. A special monitor meeting will be held to go over the new rules.

CLUB BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS: Pete Peterson has made a list of improvements that will require club members to volunteer. We will have a bi-annual clean up and work day and everyone in the Club is encouraged to participate. Details of items to be accomplished will be sent out to members.

TREASURER'S REPORT: We are 25% into our budget. The report is on file.

MEMBERSHIP: Wayne Klement reported that we have 383 members.

FIELD TRIPS: Janelle Cortright has the sign up sheet for the April trip to see the fabulous agate collection in Cottonwood AZ. Janelle will still be involved in planning future outings but needs members to lead the trips as she will be unable to do so for a few months. Anyone interested in helping with field trips please contact a Board member.

JUNIOR MEMBERS USING LABS: All members 8 (CONTINUED ON PAGE 7) years

May 2017 OPLC speaker

Gregory McNamee presenting: “Arizona Place Names: Stories of the Land”



We are in for a very special treat for our May13, 2017 OPLC monthly meeting. Gregory McNamee is a Tucson-based historian and author, journalist, photographer and publisher. He is the author or title-page editor of forty books and more than five thousand periodical publications, including articles, essays, reviews, interviews, editorials, poems, and short stories.

Among the many assignments as editor, publisher and lecturer, he is a member of the Speakers Bureau of the Arizona Humanities Council.

Gregory McNamee will present “Arizona Place Names: Stories of the Land”. He is a wonderful speaker and his talk will give us a lot of historical references and particularly references to mining. His talk will have a mining/rocks and gems direction, especially prepared for our club.

For more information about Gregory and his books please visit his website at <http://gregorymcnamee.com/>

Looking forward to seeing you all in the May meeting!

Helen Serras-Herman, OPLC Program chair

2017 OPLC speakers- A Forecast Look

We already had a terrific presentation by gemologist Eric Fritz, from Gem-A, who brought his Raman Spectrometer (January) and gave us a great understanding into spectroscopy, and Brian Cook who gave us a terrific talk on Paraiba Tourmalines and Rutilated Quartz from Brazil (March).

So, let's take a forecast look to the rest of the year:

Gregory McNamee, Tucson-based historian and author, will present "Arizona Place Names: Stories of the Land" (May 13, 2017)

Arthur Vokes, Curator Arizona State Museum, will present "Pre-Contact Ornaments: Variety, Materials, Roles" (June 10, 2017)

Sindi & Jerry Schloss, appraisers & gemologists, "Four Peaks Amethyst" (July 8)

Anna Domitrovic, rockhounding & mining (August 12, 2017)

Bob & Elaine Royer, travelers extraordinaire, will present "Easter Island" (September 9, 2017)

Wax Carving, Chuck Lundstrom, monitor of our wax carving workshop, will talk about the methods, tools, etc (October 14, 2017)

Jan Cleere, Tucson based historian and author, will present "Petticoat Prospectors"- Early Women Miners of the Western Frontier"

Please do come to the meetings and enjoy these great speakers and their presentations.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon,

Helen Serras-Herman, OPLC Program chair



Darlene Peters: Onyx sphere, rough rock, slabs, small tumbled polished rocks.

Ruby Munson: a rock club vest and a trophy.

Anonymous Donations: Standing lamps(2), and rough rock.

To donate to OPLC, just contact Tom McDevitt at (520) 575-0517

MAY GEMSTONE: EMERALD



6.84 Carat Fine Gem Emerald
From the Author's Collection

May's birthstone is the fabulous variety of Beryl known as **Emerald**. Beryl forms commonly as simple, prismatic, hexagonal crystals, whose prism faces are often vertically striated or grooved. It has indistinct cleavage on the basal {0001} plane, and conchoidal or uneven fracture. Hardness varies from 7.5 - 8.0 on the Moh's Scale, with relatively-fragile emerald usually coming in closer to 7.5. It has a density of roughly 2.7. It has a vitreous luster, is transparent to translucent, and large crystals can vary in transparency. This is especially true with emerald, whose formation happens in such violently magmatic conditions as to virtually assure a variety of inclusions (emeralds are known for their *Jardin*, a French word for "Garden"- the mass of inclusions leaves the impression of a painted garden landscape...)

As I explained for Aquamarine (another form of beryl) in the March issue, the crystal structure of beryl is characterized by sixfold rings of [SiO₄] tetrahedra that lie on top of each other and thus form endless channels along the *c*-axis of the crystal. The rings are linked by [BeO₄] tetrahedra and [AlO₆] octahedral. In addition to the main elements of beryl, minor amounts of Li, Na, or other alkalioid metals can be present (like H₂O or CO₂, they can be accommodated in the channels.) Color is caused by chromophores in the form of transition elements, and typically, Chromium (as Cr³⁺) is responsible for the deep-green in emerald. Vanadium may also act as a chromophore, either by itself, or in concert with the Chromium. Though Iron may color beryl green, it is not considered an emerald unless the chromophore is Chromium or Vanadium (Iron-green beryls are simply called "Green Beryl" or even labeled as aquamarines...) With aquamarines, the crystals are often long; by contrast, pink beryl (Morganite) typically assumes short, stubby, tabular crystals. Emerald falls in between these ranges, with mostly shorter, smaller crystals that are very rarely tabular.



Emerald Rough from Muzo, Columbia

Most beryl is found in granitic pegmatites, but emerald is an exception - it most frequently occurs in mica-schists, or veins and cavities in bituminous limestone (like the famous emerald mines of Muzo, Columbia.)

Emerald is found in few places, and important deposits include Muzo and Chivor, Columbia; Bahia and Goias, Brazil; Pakistan; Afghanistan; and Hiddenite, North Carolina. There are African deposits as well, though many of these really only produce green beryl (colored by Fe²⁺). Fine, gem-quality emeralds are exceptionally rare, and rank among the most expensive and sought-after of all gemstones. Those with May birthdays couldn't be prouder!

-Written/Compiled by Mike DeMeritt, 2013

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Nicolas Anzaldua
Kealy Bava
Jeanette Bostick
Chrisel Brumann
Erzhina Chambers
Beth Cortright
Terry Gilliam
Jolynn Gilliam
Sharon Gutierrez
Michelle Hanna
Diana Kotsky

Janet Lampi
Jud Mason
Liz Mason
Bnruce Mckellar
Brooke Morris
Fredrick Rixton
Norma Soifer
Albert Svede
Merle Voeller
Carol Voeller

through age 17 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian while using equipment in the labs.

EDUCATION OUTREACH: Carolyn and Ron Graichen who have done a fabulous job of visiting schools and providing rock and mineral samples to students need our support in the way of donations to hand out to the kids. Please see if you have

specimens to donate and place at the Club will be made available to store the items.

DOOR PRIZE: Won by Donna Brewer

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM

Twink Monrad, Secretary



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3401 Dodge Blvd, Tucson
- **Colorwright** - 520-623-3874 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 (**4813 E Speedway in Pinecrest Center**)
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
- **Kent's Tools** - 10% discount. 520-624-8098 - **2745 N 1st Avenue, Tucson**
- **Tucson Mineral & Gem World** - 10% 520-883-0682 Web address: www.tucsonmineral.com **2801 South Kinney Road, Tucson**
- **Arizona Lapidary** - Arizona Lapidary & Gem Rough - 10% Discount off rough rock 520-399-6641
7320 E Broadway Blvd, Tucson
- **Silver Lining Gemstones** - 20-35% discount on most items. 520-203-8430, or see Mike DeMeritt at any of his labs. Includes Instagram Store (IG Name **silverlininggemstones**)
- **Starr Gems** - 10% Discount on select merchandise, and 3-ounce price break for all silver purchases. See ad in this issue. **220 W Drachman, Tucson**

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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Mondays

9AM - 12PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Gloria Jean Dana 369-7225

1PM - 4PM **Silversmith Lab**

Monitor - Terry Cox 296-4949

5PM - 9PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Joseph Blackcoyote 891-6822

6PM - 9PM **Beginning Faceting**

Monitor - Earl Zoeller 886-3518

Tuesdays

9AM - 1PM **Cabbing***

Monitor - Mike DeMeritt 240-5133

9AM - Noon **Silversmithing Lab**

Monitor - John Poole 777-5588

9AM - Noon **Rock Sawing**

Monitor - Stacy Brown 334-5930

Noon - 3PM **Casting Open Lab**

Monitor - Ron Brooks 520-378-2592

1PM - 4PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Jerry Glazman 860-689-3432

Wednesdays

6PM - 9PM **Beginning Casting**

Monitor - Chuck Lundstrom 241-9262

6PM - 9PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Keith Haubert 784-8283

6PM - 9PM **Silversmithing Lab**

Monitor - Bill Penrose 780-1143

Thursdays

9AM - 12PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Bob Powell 403-8980

1PM - 4PM **Silversmithing**

Monitor - Giac D'Aquisto 207-6219

6PM - 9PM **Silversmithing**

Monitor - Bill Cascio 638-8144

Fridays

9AM - 12PM **Cabbing***

Monitor - David Schulte 954-8554

1PM - 4PM **Silversmithing**

Monitor - Terry Cox 296-4949

Saturdays

9AM - 2PM **Silversmithing**

Monitor - Terry Cox 296-4949

9:30AM - 2:30PM **Cabbing***

Monitor - Ron Bryan 619-495-7967

Sundays

10AM - 3PM **Cabbing**

Monitor - Dennis Murphy 490-9188

10AM - 3PM **Silversmithing Lab**

Monitor - Giac D'Aquisto 207-6219

*** INSTRUCTION AS AVAILABLE**

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club
 (Cutting Remarks - May 2017)
 3118 N. Dale
 Tucson, AZ 85712
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OPLC Membership Application - Please Print

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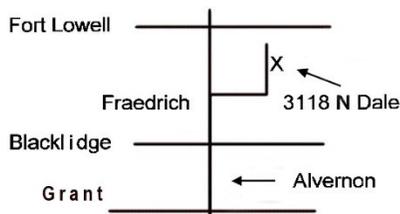
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Mail to: Membership Chairperson, Old Pueblo Lapidary Club, 3118 N. Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712



The Business Meetings are held on the 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.