

# “CUTTING REMARKS”

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

## Officers

President - David Schulte 954-8554  
Vice President - Victoria Fila  
Secretary - Twink Monrad 297-9454  
Treasurer - Bob Powell 762-1089

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2017 - 2018 Skip Barkley 546-1651  
2016 - 2017 Tom McDevitt 575-0517  
2017 Diane Braswell 574-1942  
2016 John Poole 777-5588 (Advisor)

## Membership Chairperson

Wayne Klement 954-6298

Please join us **November 11th** 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](mailto:silverlininggemstones@gmail.com)), or feel free to call him at 520-203-8430 or (520) 240-5133. Submission deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Thanks!

# THE PREZ SEZ ..... by David Schulte



11/02/17

November is here and the turkeys are worried! Our business meeting for October was held on Friday, October 6th. Our last business meeting was held on Friday, November 3rd, 2017.

The Club Board nomination committee lead by Twink has come up with a list of potential Officers and members for the OPLC board for 2018. Additional nominations and the membership vote will be held at the December meeting this year. If you would like to nominate someone or run for the board, please contact Twink Monrad.

The Silent Auction will commence at 9am on 11/4/17. We have some great stuff for sale at exactly the right price (whatever you bid!) to include rocks, slabs, equipment, tools and literature so be sure and check it out and bring your money with you!

Thanks to Pat Droll for making the stands for the new 55-gallon drums to sit on out in the yard. We will be moving all the rocks in the old ones and then throwing them away. The club will hold a clean-up day after November 12th to clean, buff and seal the floors. Trevor Chilcote is taking the lead on the painting efforts in the main building and will start taping/prepping right after the silent auction is over. We can use some help after the Silent Auction moving the tables and chairs out of the main room and taking down stuff off the walls in preparation for the taping and painting which will happen during the week of Novem-

ber 5<sup>th</sup>. Please stick around after the auction and lend a hand. If you are interested in participating and volunteering to help do the floors after November 12th, please contact David Schulte or Pat Droll. We will also have a sign-up sheet for volunteers to man the show and tell table with a faceting and cabbing machine down at the Gem Show in 2018. This will be posted by December for folks to sign up.

We are looking for someone to help Tom McDevitt with the collection and sorting of the donations we get in during 2018 to prepare for next year's silent auction. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Tom.

Our speaker this month on November 11th will be Jan Cleere, who is a Tucson based historian and author and will be presenting "Petticoat Prospectors-Early Women Miners of the Western Frontier".

Victoria Fila will be running the meeting on November 11<sup>th</sup> as I will be in Mexico slaying fish again. She hopes to see you all starting at 8 am at the club, 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:** November's birthstone is **Topaz**, like the fine Imperial Topaz from Brazil in this ring. Beautiful multicolored "**Sunstone**" labradorite facet rough will cut some one-of-a-kind!

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MINUTES OF OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING Bill Penrose, for Twink Monrad, Sec.

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Schulte at 10:15 am. He began by thanking our speaker, Dr. Brad Ross, who described research on the massive landslide in the Bingham Canyon Manefay mine, one of the largest open-pit mines in the world.

David thanked Norma Lackow for providing refreshments. She indicated that more volunteers are needed for January of next year and beyond.

A motion to adopt last month's minutes was seconded and approved by the members.

Membership stands at 497 souls in good standing. Two new members were introduced, Robert Woodcock and Wendy Ballard.

The Treasurer's report was given by Bob Powell. The club is in strong financial shape.

Helen has a list of speakers extending well into next year.

No field trips are planned at this time. Dave is investigating a possible trip to Galeana, Chihuahua. He will explore personally before making a recommendation.

The Silent Auction will be November 4. Tom McDevitt is making final arrangements. Kitchen volunteers are needed. The next day,

the painting and floor restoration project will begin in the meeting building. We have volunteers, but more are needed.

Special thanks: Bill Cascio for ongoing reorganization of the library; Phil Madsen, who cleans out the saws biweekly; Victoria Fila, who is arranging the resupply of tee shirts.

Electric upgrades in the lab building are complete. The sodium lamp on the north side of the parking lot has been replaced. Locks to the silver lab have been changed as a result of an unauthorized intrusion at a time when no lab was scheduled or monitored.

Members approved \$667 expense for liability insurance for officers and board members.

The proxy ballot for the election of Officers and Board of Directors was prepared by Twink. Bob Powell has agreed to stand as Treasurer for one more year, but someone must be trained and ready to step in at the end of 2018. Nominations are open until the election on December 9.

Volunteers are needed to set up and tear down the OPLC display at the gem show in February, and also to man our booth.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 and members proceeded outside to the yard sale in the north parking lot.

## November 2017 OPLC Speaker: Jan Cleere

### Petticoat Prospectors: Early Women Miners on the Western Frontier



We are very fortunate to have an award-winning author as our speaker for our November 11, 2017, OPLC meeting, Jan Cleere, historian and author. Jan has contributed a multitude of articles as a freelance writer for many magazines and written several books, many of them focusing on women of the Old West.

Her presentation, tailored particularly for our members will be **“Petticoat Prospectors: Early Women Miners of the Western Frontier”**. Jan will discuss the lives of early women miners.

Jan has been a member of the Arizona Humanities Road Scholar Speakers Bureau program, and gave many presentations for several years to libraries, historical societies and other civic and social organizations.

Jan shares on her website that she “writes about people, legends and tales of the Old West that she has uncovered among tattered documents, tear-stained journals and diaries, and the accounts told by old-timers”.

We hope that she will bring some of her books for sale. Please visit Jan Cleere’s website to see all her available books and articles at <https://www.jancleere.com/>

My many thanks go out to Jean Barkley who made the initial contact with Jan Cleere, and to Jerry Glassman who will introduce the speaker at the meeting, as I will not be there.

This will be the last meeting with a speaker program for this year. The December meeting will be our Annual Holiday Party. Hope you can all make it for the November meeting!

Helen Serras-Herman, OPLC Program chair

## 2017-2018 OPLC Speakers- A Forecast Look

So, let's take a forecast look to the rest of the 2017 year and some in 2018.

Jan Cleere, Tucson based historian and author, will present  
“Petticoat Prospectors-  
Early Women Miners of the Western Frontier” (November 11, 2017)

Eric Fritz, gemologist from Gem-A, “Coral” (January 13, 2018)

Juan Garcia, “Maria Felix: Her Life & Jewelry” (March 10, 2018)

Patti Polk, “Agates & Jaspers of the Southwest” (April 14, 2018)

Kevin Lane Smith, lapidary and jewelry artist (May 12, 2018)

Jim Turner, “Turquoise Mining around Jerome” (June 9, 2018)

Nick Sacketti, “Fluorescent Minerals” (October 13, 2018)

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

*I am not yet so lost in lexicography as to  
forget that words are daughters of earth,  
and that things are the sons of heaven.*

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-Samuel Johnson

## NOVEMBER BIRTHSTONE: TOPAZ

Those lucky enough to be born in the month of November have a particularly beautiful birthstone in **Topaz**. Topaz is a nesosilicate with the chemical formula  $\text{Al}_2\text{SiO}_4(\text{F},\text{OH})_2$ . Orthorhombic crystals are common, usually short to long prismatic along the *c* axis; crystals are terminated by bipyramids, other prisms, or pinacoid; the prism faces are often vertically striated. It also occurs as fine to coarse granular. Topaz has perfect basal cleavage [001], a Moh's hardness of 8, and a density of 3.5. It has a vitreous luster and is translucent to transparent. Chemically, F usually dominates over OH, so the crystal structure consists of chains of  $[\text{AlO}_4\text{F}_2]$  octahedra parallel to the *c*



Faceted Topaz gems come in an incredible array of colors.



Gorgeous Topaz on Albite specimen from Pakistan.

axis, linked by isolated  $[\text{SiO}_4]$  tetrahedra. This structure is reflected in the common prismatic crystal habit. Cleavage can take place by breaking only Al-O and Al-F bonds, without breaking Si-O bonds. The structure is a relatively dense packing of atoms, which explains the high density. Topaz can be colorless or shades of brown, orange, yellow, green, blue, and rarely pink to purple. Topaz is a characteristic mineral in pneumatolytic and pegmatitic veins related to Si-rich igneous rocks such as granites and rhyolites, and are typically associated with albite, tourmaline, cassiterite, apatite, fluorite, beryl, and micas.

Topaz is found all over the world, and important deposits include Ouro Preto and a few other locales in Minas Gerais, Brazil, where crystals over 200 kilograms have been unearthed; Siberia and Mursinka in Russia; Pike's Peak in Colorado and Hart's Range in Utah; Sri Lanka; Pakistan; and Germany. Most blue topaz rough started life as a lesser color and was heated and irradiated to final color - little of it is natural. Pink colors can be heated as well. Although most topaz is relatively inexpensive, "Imperial Topaz" from Brazil is much sought-after and very expensive to procure. Good, clean crystals only appear on the market when old collections are sold. Topaz isn't difficult to facet, but the perfect basal cleavage and occasional "finicky-ness" can be complicated for beginners.



Highgrade Imperial Topaz facet rough. Like tourmaline, topaz displays two different colors in different crystal axes. Some of the most beautiful are pink-orange and orange-red.

*-Written/Compiled by Mike DeMeritt, November 2017*

# 16TH ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION

## OLD PUEBLO LAPIDARY CLUB

3118 N. Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712

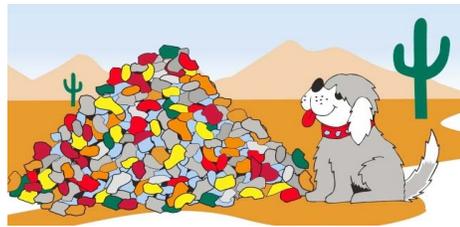
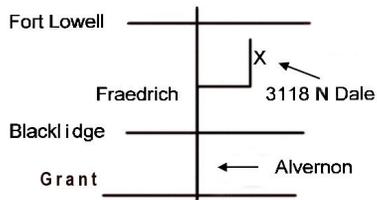
Free parking - Free admission

**DATE: Saturday, November 4, 2017 HOURS: 9:00am—2:00pm**

Don't miss it! This is a once a year chance to select all your material and lapidary needs from a myriad of mineral specimens, petrified wood, turquoise, faceting rough, cutting materials, slabs, polished stones, findings, beading material & equipment including: rock saws, cab grinders, faceters, routers, arbor, buffer & flat lap. There will also be a "kids only table".

Choose from lots of items. One of nine tables will be randomly called and replenished every 15 minutes. Place your bids to see if you are the owner of some great new lapidary finds!

For additional information, please contact Tom McDevitt 520-444-3563



### DONATIONS



**Julie Graham:** Sea shells and rocks

**Robert Munoz:** small motor

**Anonymous:** Beads, Bangles, necklaces and rocks

**Ted Rupp:** Rocks

**Dick Ferguson:** Tumblers-3, Inland swapped tops-2, visors-2, findings, grinding unit, tools, Tumbling grit and rocks, rolling mill & pattern plates, saw blades, laps, scale, hammers, chisels, dop pot, silver/nickel wire, storage containers, fire brick, and polishing compounds

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



**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**



**Chrystal Leffler  
Laura Loughney  
Tom Wartman  
Rod Woodcock  
John Duane Gors**

*My advice, in the midst of the seriousness,  
is to keep an eye out for the tinker  
shuffle, the flying of kites,  
and kindred sources  
of amusement.*

-----

**-Jerome Bruner**



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Ad Expires June 2017



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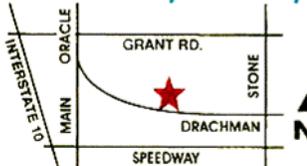
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**3401 Dodge Blvd, Tucson**
- **Colorwright** - 520-623-3874 Web address: <http://www.color-wright.com/>, **MAILING ADDRESS:** 1520 S Desert Crest Dr., Tucson, AZ 85713. Amount of discount depends on item(s) being purchased.
- **Jay's of Tucson** - 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](http://www.tucsonmineral.com) **2801 South Kinney Road, Tucson**
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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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Pete Petersen 886-9021

### PROGRAMS

Helen Serras-Herman 761-9907

### CLASSES

Gloria Jean Dana 369-7225

### FIELD TRIPS (COMMITTEE)

Wolfgang Mueller 896-3197

Janelle Cortwright 761-1924

### HISTORIAN

Bill Cascio 638-8144

### JUNIOR EDUCATION

Ron Graichen 529-2661

### KITCHEN

General Membership

### LIBRARIAN

Bill Cascio

### MEMBERSHIP

Wayne Klement 954-6298

### SECURITY

John Poole 777-5588

### SILENT AUCTION

Tom McDevitt 575-0517

### BUSINESS MEETING REFRESHMENTS

Norma Lackow 742-7561

**WEEKLY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE Phone 323-9154**

**Mondays**

1PM - 4PM **Silversmith Lab**  
Monitor - Pat Droll

3PM - 6PM **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Gloria Jean Dana 369-7225

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

6PM - 9PM **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Margarete Harris

**Tuesdays**

9AM - 1PM **Cabbing\***  
Monitor - Mike DeMeritt 240-5133

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

1PM - 4PM **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Jerry Glazman 860-689-3432

**Wednesdays**

9AM - Noon **Cabbing**  
Monitor— Sharon Wilcox 878-8685

9AM - Noon **Rock Sawing**  
Monitor - Sharon Wilcox 878-8685

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

6PM - 9PM **Silversmithing Lab**  
Monitor - Bill Penrose 780-1143

**Thursdays**

9AM - 12PM **Rock Sawing**  
Monitor - Pete Petersen 886-9021

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

6PM - 9PM **Rock Sawing**  
Monitor - Tim Rose 360-480-1817

6PM - 9PM **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Tom Tuten 803-260-5423

**Fridays**

9AM - 12PM **Cabbing\***  
Monitor - David Schulte 954-8554

1PM - 4PM **Silversmithing**  
Monitor - Lou Ackerman

**Saturdays**

9:30AM - 2:30PM **Cabbing\***  
Monitor - Ron Bryan 619-495-7967

10AM - 1PM **Casting Lab**

3PM - 6PM **Casting Class**  
Monitor - Ron Brooks 520-378-2592

***(Casting Changes Temporary)***

**Sundays**

10AM - 3PM **Silversmithing Lab**  
Monitor - Giac D'Aquisto 207-6219

10AM - 2PM **Cabbing**  
Monitor - Donovan Wagner 869-2050

***\* INSTRUCTION AS AVAILABLE***

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club  
 (Cutting Remarks - November 2017)  
 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 (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

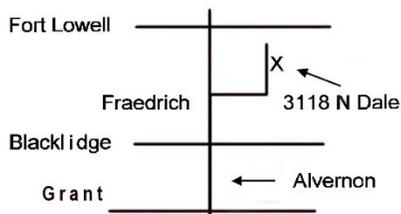
Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Summer Dates: From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership:	<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>Annual Renewals</u>
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.