

# “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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2016 - 2017 Bill Penrose 780-1143  
2017 Janelle Cortright 223-1675  
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 **October 14th** 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



October is here and the temperatures are once again perfect in Tucson. Our business meeting for September was held on Friday, 8/30/17. Our next business meeting will be held on Friday, October 6th, 2017.

The new electrical breaker panel and new outlets in all the labs in the training building are up and running now. Chris and his team or workers from Precision Power did an outstanding job for us and have removed a potential safety hazard by replacing the inside breaker panels and distributing the power more appropriately to the outlets within the training building. We have outlets installed now to allow for potential future upgrades and some air filtration systems once approved by the membership. The light above the training building parking area has been repaired and is now back up and working.

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 November meeting this year. If you would like to nominate someone or run for the board, please contact Twink Monrad.

The tailgate sale will commence after the club meeting on 10/14/17. Our members have some great stuff for sale so be sure

and check it out.

The club will hold a clean up day in November to clean, buff and seal the floors and paint the interior walls of the main building. This will be after the silent auction is held. If you are interested in participating in volunteering and have some painting equipment you could bring to help us accomplish this, please contact David Schulte or Pat Droll. The club is also looking for a volunteer to organize and run the OPLC display booth at the TGMS show in 2018. The person(s) doing this will also have access to the show as buyer. Anyone interested in taking this on, please contact David Schulte.

Our speaker this month will be Brad Ross whose subject will be "Lessons Learned from the Bingham Canyon Manefay Slide".

I'll see you all at 8 am, October 10th, 2017 for treats and coffee followed by the club meeting starting at 9:00 AM. Remember to wear you OPLC badge to the meeting to get a free raffle ticket with the purchase of some more of them.

David

**Front Cover Pictures:** October sports two birthstones - the more modern version is **Tourmaline**, with its startling variety of colors; and **Opal**, like this Australian rough just begging to be cut!

*Cutting Remarks*, Volume 2017, Issue 10, October 2017. Published monthly by the Old Pueblo Lapidary Club, 3118 N. Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712. Telephone: (520) 323-9154, a non-profit organization.



OLD PUEBLO LAPIDARY CLUB MONTHLY MEETING

September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

The meeting was brought to order by President David Schulte at 9:00 AM.

He thanked our speakers, Elaine and Bob Royer who also furnished our refreshments for the meeting.

The rock hound outing in the White Mountains run by Janelle Cortright and Jerry Behn was a great success and nice specimens of blue agate and carnelian were found. In the future there may be an outing to the Patagonia area and perhaps a chance for rock hunting in Mexico. David is working on this possibility.

A motion passed to accept the minutes of the August meeting as published in Cutting Remarks.

Our new Vice President Victoria Fila was welcomed to the club board.

Five new members/guests were introduced.

Our treasurer Bob Powell gave the financial report, which will be filed for audit.

Membership chairman Wayne Klement announced 473 members. Wayne is also keeping current on members who have been approved to use equipment in our labs.

Many interesting speakers for our meetings are lined up already by Helen Serras-Herman.

Silent Auction: Tom McDivett is accepting donations for our auction, and any tools or equipment is most welcome. John Poole turned in some scrap silver/metal donated by a member and the club received almost \$200.

T shirts and hats: Victoria Fila and a couple of other members are working on getting information so that we can place a re-order in the near future.

Librarian Bill Cascio stated that the library is being reorganized and is open for business.

Tailgate sale after October 14<sup>th</sup> meeting: As always it will be held in the north parking lot, club member vendors can park there between 8

and 8:30, must furnish own tables and sale will be AFTER the meeting and raffle.

David cautioned all to be careful of rattlesnakes, one of our members was bitten but she is recovering nicely.

Thank you to member volunteers: Wayne Klement who sprayed for weeds and picked up supplies needed and sodas. Don Morin who mucks out the sump behind the labs every 3 or 4 weeks. And many others who regularly give time to the Club. Anyone willing to donate please see David Schulte or any board member. In the Fall we want to clean and buff the floors and paint the walls in the clubhouse.

The new electric panel for the labs should be done by the end of the month.

Member insurance status: David is gathering information on insurance which would protect the Club Board and other items. The Board approved up to \$1500 to pay for this and once a quote is in place David will bring it to the members to vote on paying for it.

David purchased 3 55 gallon drums in which to store things in the parking lot. He would like help building frames to stand them on.

Monitors and labs: Mark Gibson has volunteered to help Pete and Sharon in the saw room. There are some changes in monitors and times. Please check the doors in the lab building for schedules. David thanked Mike DeMeritt for all of his help.

Monitors are being asked to pay closer attention to members using equipment in the labs due to some issues with various pieces of equipment. More volunteer monitors would be welcome.

Some outdoor lights have been found on during the day, if you see a light left on after evening classes or during the day please turn them off.

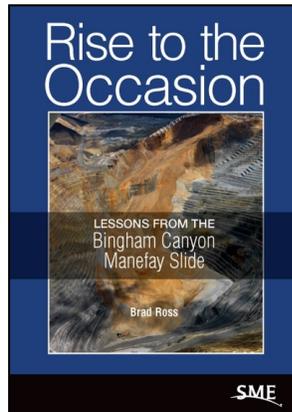
Door prize: won by Janet Keisler

Adjournment: 11:00 AM

Minutes by Twink Monrad

# October 2017 OPLC Speaker: Brad Ross, PhD, PE

## Lessons Learned from the Bingham Canyon Manefay Slide



We are very fortunate to have another celebrated speaker for our October 14, 2017, OPLC meeting, Dr. Brad Ross, an engineer, professor, fossil hunter and author, who will talk to us about an extraordinary event named the Bingham Canyon Manefay Slide, the largest mining landslide in history at the Bingham Canyon Mine, near Salt Lake City, Utah, in April of 2013.

The Manefay slide was by far the largest in mining history. Over 144 million tons of rock and debris burst out of the wall of the mine and traveled over 1 ½ miles in approximately 90 seconds. Anything in the path of the landslide, such as large mining shovels and trucks, were either destroyed or simply picked up and shoved out of the way. This talk will describe what happened and why. It will also discuss how the mine was able to predict the failure before it happened to keep everyone safe and then recover from this massive event when most people thought the mine would never operate again.

Brad Ross, PhD, PE is Professor of Practice and Co-Director for the Institute of Mineral Resources at the University of Arizona. He has over 35 years' experience in the mining industry and was fortunate to work at some of the largest copper, uranium and coal mines in the world, helping to solve difficult problems and mentor outstanding individuals. Although he has worked in many locations and served a number of positions, the most difficult and challenging job was in 2013 when Rio Tinto sent him in to the historic Bingham Canyon Mine near Salt Lake City, Utah to help prepare for and recover from the largest mining highwall failure in history – the massive Manefay Slide. Brad has since written a book called “Rise to the Occasion – Lessons from the Bingham Canyon Manefay Slide”. He will hopefully bring some of his books for sale too!

In 2015 Brad Ross and his wife Linda moved to Tucson. For more information about Dr. Ross and his book please visit <http://risetotheoccasion.net/>

Looking forward to seeing you all in our October 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

Brad Ross, "Lessons Learned from the Bingham Canyon Manefay Slide" (October 14, 2017)

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



There are no donations this month.

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

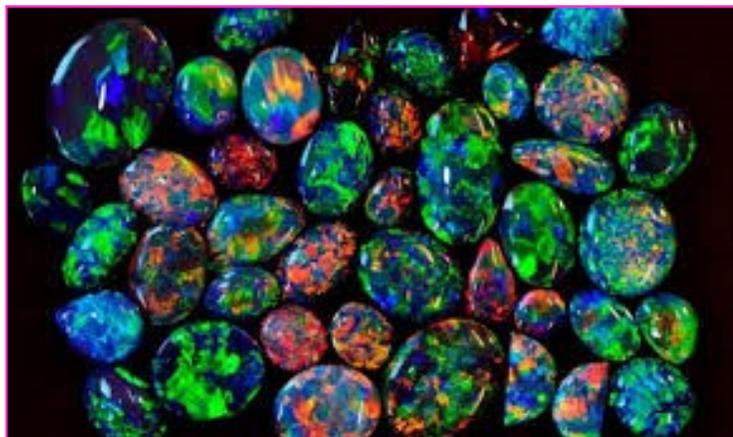
## OCTOBER BIRTHSTONE: OPAL

Those who celebrate a birthday in October have the honor of a birthstone unlike most others: the colorful variety of silicon dioxide known as *Opal*. Opal, chemical formula  $\text{SiO}_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , is basically the amorphous form of chalcedony. It has a Moh's Hardness between 5 - 6, a conchoidal fracture, and a density that varies between 2.0 - 2.2, depending on water content. The water content in opal varies; it is typically 3 - 9 wt% (percent by weight) but can be up to 20 wt%. Although opal isn't crystalline in the usual sense, order of some kind exists: opal consists of a dense packing of spheres, typically 1500 - 3000 angstrom in diameter. In common opal without play-of-color, the size of the spheres varies greatly, whereas the spheres in precious opals (those with play-of-color) are so uniform in size that they form a regular lattice, in which the light is refracted. In some opals the spheres are completely



Outstanding carved white opal from Coober Pedy, Australia

amorphous, whereas in other opals the spheres are partially crystalline and consist of disordered layers of tridymite and cristobalite. Opal occurs in fissures and cavities in various rocks, where it is deposited by hydrous solutions at relatively low temperatures. It occurs as siliceous sinter or 'geyserite' at hot springs and geysers and constitutes the majority of diatomites, which are fine-grained chalk-like deposits formed by the accumulation of shells from diatoms.



Exceptional assortment of fine black opals from Lightning Ridge, Australia

*Opal* refers to opal (with or without play-of-color) from Quetaro, Mexico, that principally comes in bright orange and red body colors. *Black Opal* refers to opal with a black body color, whereas *Crystal Opal* or *Hyalite* refers to opal with no body color, and is clear (except those pieces with heavy play-of-color!) *Boulder Opal* refers to ironstone concretions sporting opal found in Queensland, Australia. Most precious opals are from the various sandstone deposits in Australia, but they are also found in Ethiopia, Brazil, Mexico, and even the United States.

### Fire



Fire Opal cabochons from Quetaro, Mexico

-Written/Compiled by Mike DeMeritt, October 2013

# 16TH ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION

## OLD PUEBLO LAPIDARY CLUB

3118 N. Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712

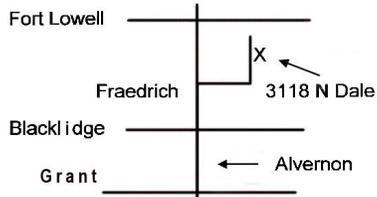
Free parking - Free admission

**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



The inner life of a human being  
is a vast and varied realm and  
does not concern itself alone  
with stimulating arrangements  
of color, form, and design.

---

**-Edward Hopper**



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Wendy	Ballard	Blanca	Guerdt
Bonnie	Bradford	Curtis	Schagunn
Joanne	Call	Crystal	Schagunn
Brett	Call	Matthew	Scrivner
Carlos	Gristani		

## OCTOBER TAILGATE SALE

**-Tailgate Sale DOES NOT START UNTIL AFTER THE MEETING!**

**-OPLC MEMBERS ONLY!**

**-Bring your own tables!**

**-Items for sale MUST be related to lapidary or metalsmithing arts,  
or OPLC activities.**

**-Parking for participants is in North Lot - FROM 8AM UNTIL 8:30AM ONLY!**

**-The North Lot WILL be open to Monitors working THAT DAY!**

**-After 8:30AM, the North Parking Lot will then be open to the  
General membership.**

**-Again, the Tailgate Sale WILL NOT START until after the October meeting is over!**



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Call for hours.

Ad Expires June 2017



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[info@betadiamond.com](mailto:info@betadiamond.com)

(714)777-7144

Beta Diamond Products would like to thank Old Pueblo Lapidary Club members for choosing our diamond consumables for their polishing and faceting needs. Beta Diamond Products has been in business since 1986 supplying the faceting community with the best U.S. micronized diamond on the market. Use our diamond powder and diamond spray – club favorites! Ask other members about our excellent quality, delivery and price.



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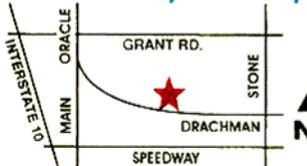
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Saturday 10-2

Closed Sunday & Monday



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Ad Expires June 2015

**MONEY SAVING DISCOUNTS**

- **DAH Rock Shop** - 10% on most items, \$10 minimum purchase. 520-323-0781  
**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**
- **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!**

**Rate Schedule for Advertisements - - - Ad Sizes & Prices**

1/8 of a page -  
2" H by 3 1/2" W  
\$36.00 per year  
\$18.00 per half year  
\$3.00 per month

1/4 of a vertical page -  
4 1/2" H by 3 1/2" W  
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\$24.00 per half year  
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1/4 of horizontal page -  
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1/2 page - 4 1/2" H by 7 1/4" W  
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Full page - 9 1/2" H by 7 1/4" W  
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\$14.00 per month

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EXCEPT SPECIALS. \$10 MINIMUM  
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Ad Expires Sept 2015

## COMMITTEES

### ADVERTISING

Mike DeMeritt 203-8430

### BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & EQUIPMENT

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 - October 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 (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

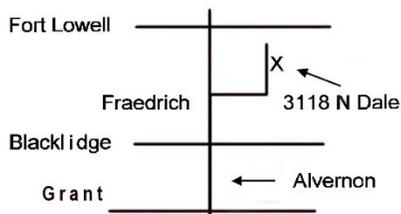
Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Summer Dates: From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

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.