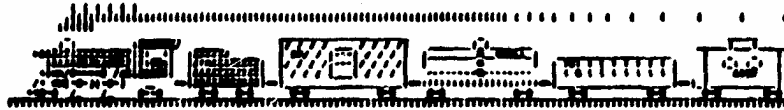




# The OPAL EXPRESS

Published monthly by the  
American Opal Society...



VOLUME 20  
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PRESIDENT'S NOTES-----Well at last! It's finally

here! Our 21st annual show! This is a last~ call for help. All able bodies are needed to help set up tables Friday morning and to put on the skirting before the dealers arrive.

During the show we need hosts and hostesses, volunteers for the Silent Auction and Jewelry Design Contest.

You dealers who live nearby, maybe you can help for an hour or so. Dorothea and I are selling at this show, but we will be there early Friday to help, return home later to load up and go back to set up our wares.

Those of you who are members at large, not just the Chapter members, are invited to come and meet the other members while you help out.

A note to our dealers!!!!!! The California State Board of Equalization called to tell us that everyone selling at the show must have a valid California resale permit to sell at the show. If you don't have one, you had better get one before show time. (Yes even if you are out-of-state.

COME ONE, COME ALL. IT'S SHOWTIME! BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND LET'S ALL HAVE A GRAND TIME!!,!!!

## BOARD REPORT

As you may have guessed, the business at the Board meeting was all show and related items. There are 30 dealers with a total of 63 tables rented. Sounds like a great time, huh?

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Opal Society, Inc will be held Thursday, September 22nd, 7:30 pm. Any item to be placed on the agenda must reach the President at least seven days before this meeting.

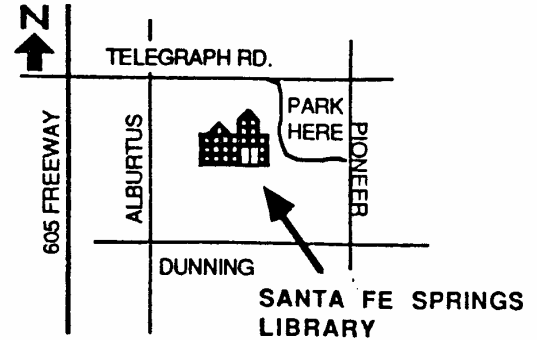
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 Honorary Lifetime Members, Bill end Della Judd

General Meetings held on the 2nd Thursday at 7:30 PM in the Santa Fe Springs Library, 11700 Telegraph Rd., Santa Fe Springs. See Map.



#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

THANKS TO GEORGIA SMITH AND JO SNYDER FOR ALL THEIR EFFORT TO GIVE US A TALK ON STONE SETTING AT THE AUGUST MEETING.

EVERYONE IS KEYED UP FOR THE BIG SHOW SEPT. 10 - 11 AT ANAHEIM CONVENTION CENTER, 800 W. KATELLA, ANAHEIM CONE, BRING YOUR STUFF, AND PLAN SOME TIME TO HELP OUT. WE NEED YOU!!

ALSO, DON'T FORGET THAT OUR ANEMIC TREASURY NEEDS THE FAITHFUL TO COLLECT AND BRING IN ALUMINUM CANS. YOU CAN GIVE THE TREASURY A BOOST THIS WAY:

FOLLOWING IS A LETTER FROM THE JACOB SCHMIDTS TO JOE VEZEAU:

DEAR JOE,

LAST MEETING WE WERE WELL AWARE OF THE SPARSE GATHERING OF OUR CLUB. YOU MOST CERTAINLY DO MORE THAN YOUR SHARE TO KEEP THE "FOUNDING CHAPTER" ALIVE, THAT'S FOR SURE JUST WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW WHY YOU CAN'T ANTICIPATE VIEWING OUR SMILING FACES NEXT (AUGUST) MEETING. JAKE GOT A PINCHED NERVE NEAR HIS SPINAL COLUMN, AND A LENGTHY TRIP INTO THE "BIG CITY AREA" IS OUT OF THE QUESTION, AS TO MYSELF, I CANNOT RELAX AT THE WHEEL IN FREEWAY DRIVING AT NIGHT. TRY NOT TO MELT IN THIS HEAT:

BEST REGARDS, LAURITTA AND JAKE SCHMIDT

P.S.: SUCH AS THE ABOVE IS ONE OF THE REASONS I HAVE NOT PROMISED TO FURNISH A HOME BAKED CAKE FOR REFRESHMENTS. I DID SO MANY TIMES YEARS AGO WHEN I HELD DOWN THE LIBRARIAN'S JOB. SO -- .I'M NOT THE SHIRKER!

\*\*\*\*\*

THE AUGUST MEETING WAS AN INFORMATIVE DEMONSTRATION BY GEORGIA SMITH AND JO SNYDER ON WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR BEAUTIFUL OPALS ONCE YOU HAVE CUT THE STONES. THE DEMONSTRATION WAS AS COMPREHENSIVE AS POSSIBLE, GIVEN THE LIMITED TIME AVAILABLE. THE LADIES SHOWED A WIDE VARIETY OF TOOLS, BOTH PURCHASED AND HAND-MADE (AND ALSO SCROUNGED FROM YOUR FRIENDLY DENTIST!). THEY DISCUSSED VARIOUS WAYS TO USE WAX AND SHOWED HOW MANY TYPES AND SHAPES OF WAXES ARE AVAILABLE.

BASIC STONE SETTING, BOTH BEZEL AND PRONG STYLE WERE SHOWN, AND MANY TIPS WERE GIVEN TO MAKE ALL THE WORK EASIER, A LIVELY QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION AFTER THE DEMONSTRATION CONCLUDED THE MEETING.

??

Last month a few days after we mailed the newsletter, the United States Postal Service sent us a plastic bag containing a newsletter minus the mailing label. (Honest there had been one there, originally.) So, if you didn't get your OPAL EXPRESS last month, drop us a line and we'll send it right out.

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ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER NEWS---Brian Franks, Pres., 714-857-2743

The Orange County Chapter meets the third Tuesday of each month at the College Park Clubhouse in Irvine. (See map on back.) We are trying to arrange for a wax modeler to give a demonstration, and will send out a card with definite program The President is on vacation this week and we could not confirm plans

That's 7 30 pm, September 20th , College Park Clubhouse

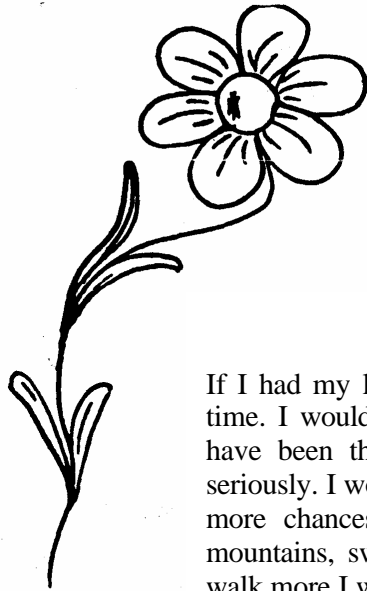
**Opal, the "Queen of Gems," Spurts in Market**

**It must have been a poet who described opal as "the aurora borealis captured in stone."** Others have described the gem as reminiscent of "a black night streaked with rainbow lightning or a white snowy landscape dotted with fireflies of red gold purple and green," or the "Queen of Gems".

However you describe it opal has always held a special kind of magic for gem lovers There's an old Roman legend that a certain Senator Nonius of ancient Rome owned a remarkable opal that was coveted by Mark Anthony. Anthony wanted the opal so badly that he trumped up some charges against Nonius and Nonius was forced to choose between giving up his opal or being exiled from Rome He chose exile.

O.K., so maybe exile is a bit of a high price to pay for opal today (though opal miners who live In the Australian outback may disagree), but the word from Idar Oberstein is that the worldwide demand for good-quality opal has risen considerably. Moreover, the price of fine-quality black opal is continuing to rise despite substantial finds last year, says the latest issue of the Idar-Oberstein Bourse Bulletin. The Obersteinians blame the growing domestic market in Australia and a renewed interest in the gem among the Japanese. Maybe it's the copycat syndrome, but U.S. opal dealers are telling us that sales are up here In the U.S. too.

The above article was taken from NATIONAL JEWELER, JULY 16, 1988.



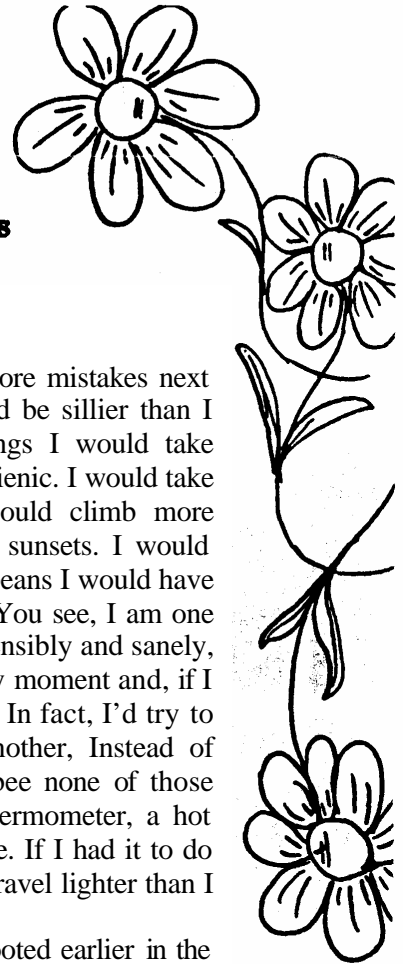
### I'D PICK MORE DAISIES

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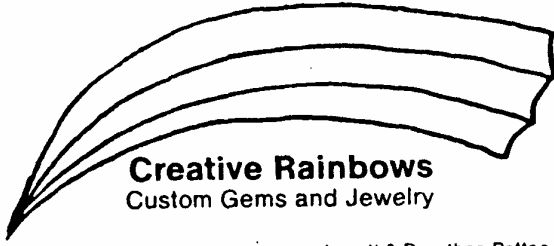
If I had my life to live over, I'd try to make more mistakes next time. I would relax. I would limber up. I would be sillier than I have been this trip. I know of very few things I would take seriously. I would be crazier. I would be less hygienic. I would take more chances. I would take more trips. I would climb more mountains, swim more rivers, and watch more sunsets. I would walk more I would eat more ice cream and less beans I would have more actual problems and less imaginary ones. You see, I am one of those people who lives prophylactically and sensibly and sanely, hour after hour, day after day. Oh, I have had my moment and, if I had it to do over again, I'd have more of them. In fact, I'd try to have nothing else. Just moments, one after another, Instead of living so many years ahead each day. I have been none of those people who never goes anywhere without a thermometer, a hot water bottle, a gargle, a raincoat, and a parachute. If I had it to do over again, I would go places and do things and travel lighter than I have.

If I had my life to live over, I would start barefooted earlier in the spring and stay that way later in the fall I would play hooky more. I wouldn't make many good grades except by accident. I would ride on more merry-go-round. I'd pick more daisies.

- Brother Jeremiah



Courtesy of PIP, a company with which I have become very familiar in the past 3½ years. Thank you all for your support and I hope you will give the new Executive Secretary your support also.....



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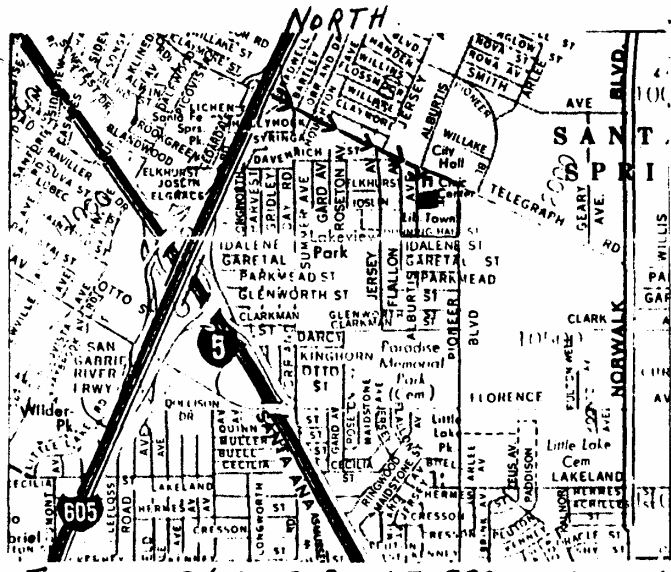
Saturday 10-6

Sunday 10-5

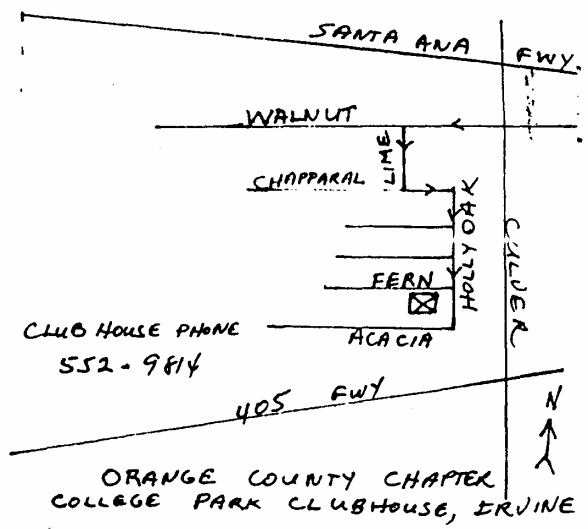
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