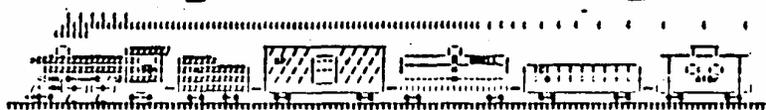




# The OPAL EXPRESS

Published monthly by the  
American Opal Society...



VOLUME 21  
NUMBER 8  
AUGUST 1989

JEWETT PATTEE, EDITOR

As most of you already know, our annual show will be held November 18th and 19th at California State University at Long Beach. The event will be held in the multi-purpose rooms of the Student Union Building. For those of you who have not been there, the building is very attractive and the rooms have a wall of windows facing the mountains, and letting in lots of natural light.

One of the most important parts of the show are our dealers who attend the show bringing much beautiful opal, many colored stones, pearls and other gemstone beads, cutting equipment and tools and the best selection of finished jewelry around. We like to think of these dealers as the stars of the show. The following is a list of the dealers attending

From California---

Acme Gems--San Pedro  
Alice's Gems--Torrance  
Andria Bree Gem Co.--El Cajon.  
Calif. Gemstone Setting--Rosemead  
The Clam Shell--Poway  
Creative Rainbows--Long Beach  
Cyr's Minerals--Lemon Grove  
Evans Supreme Gems--Spring Valley  
The Hendricks--Arleta  
House of Tibara--Clovjs  
Opals Galore and More--Garden Grove  
Oxy Gems--Coalings  
Ron's Rocks--Camarillo  
L. Silverman & Co.--Redding  
Western Opal Corp.--Los Angeles

From Nevada

Rainbow Ridge Opal Mines--Denio

From Australia, via Van Nuys--Phil Pearl

and from Hawaii-

Rimm, Inc.

As always, we are missing some of our former dealers and adding new ones. We have a limited number of spaces available. If anyone is interested write: American Opal Society, Inc., PO Box 1384, South Gate, CA 90280 or call: 213-869-0527 or 213-425-2426, as soon as possible.

## LETTER FROM THE PREZ!

G'day Mates! - Good Day in American English. So much for the Aussie part.

I received a letter from Lightning Ridge, deploring the Market's soft prices. No one is able to sell many cut stones, so a lot of inexpensive rough is now on the block.

I would not try to buy Black Opal Rough unseen, as there is a lot of picking over by many hands before the rough gets to you. Buy only on ¼ down, and the right to return to the seller, for a full refund, any parcels that do not meet with your approval.

As to Coober Pedy, the rains have diminished and most miners are hard at work, trying for that illusive bonanza that will set them up for life. Most like the Stone for its beauty, but the lure of fast money and riches beyond an 8 - 5 job have brought many a character to the fields. It would take many volumes to tell all their individual stories of where they came from and how they have spent their hours and days listening to the old miners tales and getting their own bearings as to which fields to for the Gold.

The "Out Back" towns have their own Payton Place that rival and pass what was printed in that book. The loves, the passion, an occasional fight and unsolved disappearances are all a part of the Opal lore most people never hear about, or even want to be bothered by.

So Opal has everything from its tragedies in mining accidents, to the romance blossoming from that rich find and the places of travel and heights of passion it has taken A LOT of people to.

I still love Opal for its hidden beauty, as each turn and twist show colors no other gem ever dreamed of displaying in one stone. In its extreme beauty, every color of the spectrum is displayed by the dancing brilliant crystal lattice works peculiar only to the Queen of Gems, our beautiful, Opals.

The Show is only a little over three months away. The preparations are nearing completion, but we need the help from as many volunteers as possible. Please get in touch with Jewett & D3nothea Pattee if you would be able to help with set-up on Friday, November 17th, help at the &)or and in the booth on November 18th & 19th, and/or help with closing and cleaning up after the Show on Sunday, November 19th. Thanking you in advance for all your help in making this year's Show another success.

THE PREZ!  
Dick Koch

TO ALL MEMBERS;

It's time to start thinking about that super special, fantastic, jewelry design you've been going to work on • Details for this year's Jewelry Design Contest will be in next month's Opal Express. If you missed it last year, start early this year and join in the suspense, mystery and excitement. As they say about the Olympics, "The thrill of victory and the agony of defeat."? Oh well, I thought it sounded good.

SEE YOU ALL AT THE SHOW IN NOVEMBER

GEM DIEGO SHOW  
San Diego Mineral & Gem Society  
Material compiled from Pasadena  
Lapidary Society's  
Show Security Workshop

PACKET WAS  
GIVEN TO EACH DEALER  
BEFORE THE SHOW. GOOD  
COMMON SENSE ADVICE  
CAN BE USED BY ALL. (ed.)

## SUGGESTED SECURITY MEASURES

1. Familiarize yourself with the area
  - a. Routes to and from show site - pick at least 2 if possible If you are staying on site, watch out for you and your neighbors Note who is next to you on site.
  - b. Note phones, gas stations, and other potential help in area
  - c. 911 is for police, paramedics and fire, nearest hospital is
  - d. Main Entrance - faces Inside - Unload & Load Entrance-
2. Physical Security - What you need to do •
  - a. Familiarize yourself with the area both inside and outside
  - b. Where is your booth located?
  - c. Determine the location of the following:
    1. Nearest entry/exit doors
    2. Nearest power source
    3. Fire hose and extinguishers
    4. Telephones - -
    5. Bathrooms - From Main Entrance -bathrooms at both ends - also drinking fountains
    6. Interior lighting - routine - no emergency lights - do have flashlight
  - d. Inside the exhibit hall, there will be a uniformed guard during the show. At night after the show is closed, there will be a guard inside all night. During the show there will be SDMG members monitoring all exits
  - e. ALL dealers, exhibitors, demonstrators and show committee members will have BADGES. Security SDMG members will have security ribbons
3. Plan tactics for on and off loading of articles
  - a. How close can you get to entry door  
After of f loading, please move your cars so others can get in.
  - b. Recognize need for at least a two person operation
    - a. One doer
    - b. One watcher. If you must leave your vehicle - lock it
    - c. Set up is from Tear-down starts at
4. Keep a running inventory of articles in your booth
  - a. Before show
  - b. Midpoint of show
  - c. At closure of show

This helps police in attaching time to unwitnessed thefts.
5. LOSS PREVENTION
 

One out of every ten customers is a thief

  - a. Shoplifting
  - b. Credit card and forgery
  - c. Counterfeit bills

SHOPLIFTING

No one needs to tell a business owner the effect shoplifters have on retail shrinkage. These "sleight-of-hand" thieves come in all shapes and sizes with a never-ending bag of tricks to outwit you and your employees.

Most shoplifters are amateurs rather than professionals. They are easier to detect and deter. Fifty percent are juvenile offenders. The best way to discourage them is by taking a "get-tough" attitude, prosecuting even on the first offense. Signs stating your policies on shoplifting will help deter thefts.

Professionals are harder to detect and much more clever. Alert booth personnel will keep your booth from being tagged an "easy mark." Expensive items can be protected by keeping them out of reach or in locked display cases. Display merchandise should be neatly arranged to readily detect any missing items.

Practice good salesmanship - let your customers know you are nearby if they need help. It will discourage dishonest customers.

Be alert to customer's movements and displayed merchandise. If possible do not turn your back on a customer. • Especially watch for times when you may be alone in your booth and you have two customers at both ends of your booth. This is the time professionals will try to distract you.

Be suspicious of bulky coats worn out of season, large purses and shopping bags.

CREDIT CARDS

Stolen credit cards or "hot cards" losses can be reduced with alertness and proper security measures by you and your employees.

When making credit card transactions you should watch out for these customers:

The chatty customer or the one who delays a purchase until the clerk is upset or the customer who hurries a clerk just before closing time.

Request a driver's license and other identification with check or credit card purchase. Refer to the "hot sheet" which lists all stolen credit card numbers. If you suspect the fraudulent use of a card, an authorization call to the card company should be made. If the card is stolen, the card company will, notify their security office who will in turn notify the police:

## 6. CLOSING THE SHOW

Your Goals:

- a. To leave the show as quickly as possible with a minimum of confusion.
- b. Guard against fatigue and feeling rushed.
- c. You should have already decided on a plan for your closing operations, and stick to it.
- d. Your plan should include specific tactics for movement from the display area to your loading area. Be aware of how much access the public has to the loading area - be mindful of stragglers/customers from the show.
- e. Know the other dealers as best you can. Know the show security and show officials. REPORT UNKNOWNNS TO SECURITY OR SHOW OFFICIALS
- f. Never allow yourself to become isolated from others transporting, loading or selling valuable items
- g. AWARENESS AND COMMON SENSE - Don't be overconfident or complacent about your security.

W A N T E D

Used Lapidary equipment to use in teaching a class at Huntington Park High School. If you or anyone you know has anything, priced reasonable, please contact; Mr. Bowser at (714) 947-4803. Thank you.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Society received a call from Julius Lippa's wife Denise that Julius is looking for someone to cut basenite for him. He plans to use it as backing for his Gilson opal triplets. Also he needs a trim saw, if anyone has one to donate. His number is 213/641-5756 and he can be reached at home anytime Friday through Sunday.

\*\*\*\*\*

From Rod Griffin in Sydney, Australia;

Just a little news from the Fields... Well we have not worked more than a month this year because of the rain. It has stopped row but it will take at least another month for the bush tracks to dry out, you may say why so long? Well to cut a long story short, cur Kato Excavator is 40 tons, the Loader is 25 tons and the Tractor is 10 ton so all up, 75 ton on a dirt track adds up to a very sinking feeling. So we cannot move cur machinery over these track for fear of getting stuck. Out bare there is nobody to help you where are working (1500 miles west of Brisbane) you are on your own. We are so inaccessible that we did not have one visitor last year, only because nobody could find our camp.

Sincerely, Rod Griffin, Griffin Gems & Jewelry, Sidney, Australia

BIRTHDAYS -       Forty is the old age of youth;  
                  fifty is the youth of old age.  
                                  VICTOR HUGO

PERSPECTIVE -     To be seventy years young is  
                  sometimes far more cheerful  
                  and hopeful than to be forty  
                  years old.  
                                  OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

Aug. 1989

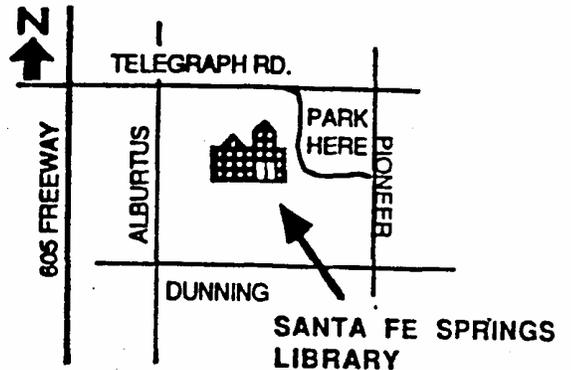
# !!!! NEWS FROM THE FOUNDING CHAPTER !!!!

American Opal Society  
Founding Chapter  
P.O. Box 3895  
Downey, CA 90242

AUG. MEETING ON THUR. 8/10

President	Hal Brees	714-820-6446
Vice Pres.	Bobbie Gledhill	714-828-6830
Recording Sec.	Catherine Doten	714-220-5891
Treasurer	Bill Means	213-560-3965
Board Members:	Edith Ostrander	213-698-3985
Honorary Members:	Sue & Harold Umberson	213-693-7380
Nancy Means,	Bill & 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



From Your President;

(Or... Ah... Let's say the Vice) Our Mr. President, Hal Brees is away .for 3 weeks. on vacation. "We hope he's having a wonderful time. Wish we were doing the same." On vacation that is ... "We always have a wonderful time" Right? Right!

What a terrific time we all had playing Bingo at the July Gen. Meeting. There were lots of great gifts that were won and some took home 2 or 3.

For those who couldn't make it, we missed you.

We also have a new member, who attended. He even had a BINGO!!! We Welcome HAROLD ANDERSON. We all enjoyed his company and are happy that he's part of our group.

Our next General meeting is Aug. 10th, at 7:30, at our favorite place. We are proud to announce that Father Floyd Jenkins agreed to visit our group and discuss his very knowledgeable subject of Paleontology.

"PLEASE" Make this your #1 Priority for Aug. 10th. He doesn't usually give talks to small groups. So lets have the biggest attendance we can!!

I'm sure each of us can lure a friend or two, you may be very glad you did.

TUES.- WORKSHOP AT EDITHS PLACE (213) 698-3985.

CANS:- We are still collecting than (It really helps bring in a few extra bucks for the group.

Friendship:- Call a friend or send a card.

SPECIAL THANKS TO NANCY AND BILL MEANS; They have gone away for a month, bit before they left, they gave us 3 gifts for our Bingo also \$5.00 to play 3 cards for then. They don't know it, but they won 3 gifts. Thanks again, Bill (Treasurer) and his lovely wife Nancy.

Hope to see you all at the meeting; a peek ~ Sept. meeting we will be having dare Gagnon, He's a super nice fellow who does a wonderful job at instructing wire wrapping. This is another GREAT MEETING you don't want to miss!

Take Care and Keep Smiling Until Then!!!



**Creative Rainbows**  
Custom Gems and Jewelry

P.O. Box 90641  
Long Beach, CA 90809

Jewett & Dorothea Pattee  
213-425-2426

WHOLESALE MAIL ORDER

OPAL SPECIALISTS

Now featuring GEM MOUNTAIN SAPPHIRE GRAVEL  
CONCENTRATE in 4/ bags. 1/\$10 - 2/\$18

**EVANS SUPREME GEMS**

Bob & Elma Evans

P.O. Box 1305  
SPRING VALLEY, CA 92077

(619) 463-8369

Manufacturer  
Wholesale

Tel: (213) 888-0344  
(818) 282-2697

**SCHULZ & WU INC.**  
SPECIALIZED IN OPAL JEWELRY  
CRYSTAL CAKE TOPS

WERNER SCHULZ  
2083 Montebello Town Center  
Montebello CA 90640

YUNG WU SCHULZ  
Graduate Gemologist  
Appraisals & Identification

**INITIATION FEE: \$10.00, DUES \$20.00 PER YEAR, AFTER JULY 1ST, \$10.00**

NO. \_\_\_\_\_ CHAPTER (NAME): \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (AREA): \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Business) \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

**G O L D**

and the

**Lapidary Arts**

**The Eighth Annual AGMSA Gem and Jewelry Show**

See special gold exhibit from the L.A. County Museum. Gems,  
Jewelry, and mineral displays • Working exhibits • Demonstrations

Friday 10-6

Saturday 10-6

Sunday 11-5

August 4

August 5

August 6

**Pasadena Convention Center**

300 E. Green Street, Pasadena, CA

**\$3 Admission (\$2.50 with this card)**



Sponsored by the American Gem & Mineral Suppliers Association

Seminars will be held Saturday and Sunday. Each seminar will cost \$10.00. If all six seminars are taken, total cost will be \$50.00 which will also include admission fee for Sunday.

Topics and the time scheduled for each are as follows

1. SATURDAY 10:30 AM. ELEMENTS OF JEWELRY DESIGN-- Presented Noel Lamkin, Award winning Designer.
2. SATURDAY 1:00 PM OPAL MINING IN AUSTRALIA-- Presented by Dick Koch, President of American Opal Society, Inc.
3. SATURDAY. 3:30 PM--PURCHASING OPAL ROUGH AND CUTSTONE5-- Presented by Tim Thomas, Opal Dealer
4. SUNDAY 10:30 AM, TYPES OF OPAL AND FAMOUS OPALS-- Presented by Jewett Pattee, former President of American Opal Society, Inc
5. SUNDAY 12:00 NOON, ORIENTING OPAL FOR COLOR--presented by Brian Franks, Opal Dealer..
6. SUNDAY 2:30 PM, EVALUATING AND PRICING CUT OPAL. Education committee of American Opal Society, Inc

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

DICK KOCH, PRES., 213-927-4372  
 NOEL LANKIN, 1ST VICE-PRES. 714-529-8031  
 HAROLD IJMBF.RSON, 2ND VICE-PRES. 213-693-7380  
 DOLORES PROULX, TREAS. 714-596-6396  
 JOYCE FUNK, SECRETARY, 213-869-0527  
 JEWETT PATTEE, 213-425-2426 DR. ROSS STAMBLER, 213-693-6898  
 WILLIAM VEATCH, 213-833-8908 EARL CHURCHILL, 714-962-7154  
 IDA PROUE, 714-596-6396  
 DONOTHEA PATTEE, 213-425-2426 EDITH OSTRANDER, 213-698-3985

RETURN TO:



AMERICAN OPAL SOCIETY, INC.  
 P.O. BOX 1384.  
 SOUTH GATE, CA 90280  
 FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS

.....  
 Return this part with check or money order.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ APT. \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

I WOULD LIKE TO ENROL IN THE FOLLOWING SEMINARS:  
 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_ ALL \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to American Opal Society, Inc.