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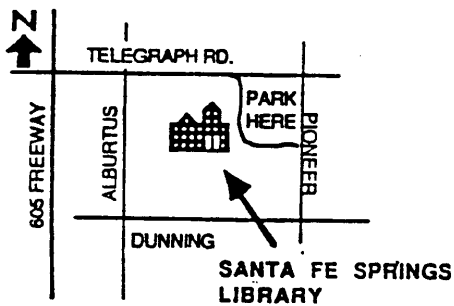
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RETURN TO:

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

FIRST CLASS



THE AMERICAN OPAL SOCIETY MEETS
HERE ON THE SECOND THURSDAY OF
EACH MONTH AT 7:00 PM

FROM THE PREZ!

Howdy from Anaheim's Quality Inn. I have been there and the room looks extra nice, with rugs on the floor, "easy on zee feet", acoustic tile and nice colors, allow for a noise free, enjoyable area.

We're looking for sane happy helping hands to man the doors, taking tickets, demonstrating, selling in the Society's booth, etc.

This might take an hour, or a couple of hours, in different areas. All 'volunteer help gladly accepted for both days, Nov. 3 & 4.

We have room for a couple of large dealers (2 or more tables), or several small, (1 table) dealers. The tables have gone fast since show time was announced.

Sorry for any inconvenience as to show date, bit it was the only one Quality Inn had open for us this year. We'll try for October, and all advertising will be towards that end next year. Will give date at show time this year for October 1991. (Hopefully).

Luky made a hit with those attending the July meeting, and after a talk on mining, showed his parcels of cut and rough opal. On his return from a fortnight in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan, he appraised the opal for Mike Coppersmith of our Opal Society.

Seems, Mike has a nose for special sales at auctions and bought 1300 carats of the top trays I pointed out for him.

Mike brought all of his opal for the August meeting and did a show and tell on tow to boy \$239,500 .00 worth of opal for under \$30,000.00. That's what Luky appraised it for, after 6 hours of sorting, checking finish and chips, etc.

If you don't come to the meetings, you don't know what is in store for you. SURPRISE!

Because of this higher grade material being shown, I've been asked to do another opal evaluation and appraisal on the Society's charts.

Bring something of your stock in opals, and maybe you 'II get to know what to look for and then appraise your own opals for their true worth.

Luky has shown us, that by buying better grade opal rough, you can expect more enjoyment and profit if you sell your works of art, when you buy \$200.00 worth of \$1500.00 an ounce material or a couple of nice stones that cut will sell for \$400.00 - \$800.00. You can't get a "Silk Purse" out of a Sow's Ear".

Thanks for your support! Dick Koch

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CHILD GEOLOGY

1. Volcanoes give us hot java.
2. Limestone is a green tasting rock.
3. Quartz -- it takes four quartz to make a gallon.
4. Rocks are gradually softened through aging -- the first hundred years of a rock's life are the hardest.
5. Many holes in the Pacific Ocean would be famous as mountains if they were not turned up-side-down.
6. Geologists tell us that Maine is slowly sinking. When we first noticed this, we fought Spain, thinking they were causing the sinking of Main.
7. The axis is only a make-believe line, but the earth still manages to turn on it somehow.
8. There is a tremendous weight pressing down on the center of the earth because of so much population stomping around up here.
9. For as long as the moon has been here it makes a trip around the earth once a month; there is not much else to do.
10. The worst thing about longitude and latitude and the equator is that they are only imaginary places.
11. Humidity is the experience of looking for air and finding water.
12. One hundred humidities equal one rain.
13. Water vapor gets together in a cloud; when it gets big enough to be called a drop, it does.
14. Heavy water is with ships in it.
15. Making water takes everything from H to 0.
16. The smallest thing water can be divided into is a drop.
17. There is nothing to keep a liquid from changing to another state. The Mississippi River, as we all know, does not have to stay in that state alone.
18. We say the cause of perfume disappearing is evaporation. Evaporation gets blamed for many things; people forget to put the cap on.
19. Night is when we get the shady side of the sun.
20. Some people tell what time it is by looking at the sun, but I have never been able to make out the numbers.
21. The earth hold everything with its grabability.
22. Vacuums are nothing; we only mention them to let them know that we know they are there.
23. A vacuum is an empty place with nothing in' it.
24. There is no air in vacuums - that means there is nothing. Try to think of it. It's easier to think of something, than not to think at all.

Thank you "PLS" Bulletin July '90 via Smoke signals (no date).

Do you have something to share with the rest of us? Send it to:
The American Opal Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 1384, South Gate, CA. 90280

Swatting constantly, we rejuvenated our bodies and spirits on Daniel's crankcase oil coffee, whiling away the afternoon in rapt attention to his tales of cow punching in Mexico and California.

On truly tender feet we hiked to the ranch in the late afternoon where a considerate family met us and ferried us to Hinckley. As we wheeled into the Hinckley General Store parking lot, I spotted a phone and dashed for it to call our son Greg in Arcadia. Traffic noise on our end seemed unusually loud as I explained to a relieved Greg what had happened. Glancing toward the road, I saw a veritable convoy of Scouts and Jeeps roaring past us into the desert. The painted medallions on their doors looked rather official. Of course -- it was the Desert Search and Rescue Team launching their search for us!

Just then a pickup with a CB aerial on the cab pulled up to the General Store. Signing off with assurances to Greg that we'd get home promptly and instructions to disband his rescue team of friends and neighbors with thanks, I rushed to the pickup and explained in abbreviated terms to the lady driver what had happened. I asked if she could radio via CB to abort the Rescue Team's vain search. She tried, but couldn't interject into the flood of radio traffic. Luckily, her husband was the Fire Chief of Hinckley, and she hurriedly drove us to their home. Their neighbor, a nurse, came over immediately and administered first aid to Patti's blistered and badly swollen feet.

The leader of the Desert Search and Rescue team was finally contacted. He sped to where we were in Hinckley, and I joined him in the attempt to gather the balance of the team. Off we went into the 'desert (again) in the gathering darkness. The roundup of the team was accomplished with military precision. Here was true training. These fellows knew what they were doing -- it was mighty impressive. The word had been relayed that the "victims" had been located, and despite their wide dispersal over desolate country, the team members congregated quickly at the common meeting point in the pitch dark.

A dozen or so vehicles formed a circle, headlights inward. Hot coffee was passed around. Led by the Sheriff, a debriefing methodically took place, and I explained the details of our "desert experience." It was after midnight when we set off in a caravan of three Scouts to retrieve and tow the car. I got the honor of driving it out.

As we carefully picked our way through the darkness, the friendly stars peppering the sky, I reflected on our ordeal. Mentally, I ticked off some of the lessons learned:

1. Desert Trail guide books cannot account for the vagaries and changes brought about by weathering of terrain, nor can one rely upon mileages shown on sketched maps.
2. The scenic beauty of the desert is hostile to the unprepared.
3. Good physical condition and stamina are necessary for any extensive desert hiking.

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4. Information on destination and time of return should be left with someone at home so that police or sheriff's offices can be contacted if necessary.
5. The Desert Search and Rescue Team in concept and practice is a valuable organization; they are well-trained volunteers that can save lives.
6. Never take the desert for granted! Always carry a two-day's supply of water and food.
7. Carry flares and stay with your vehicle unless you are physically fit.
8. Plan off-the-road trips in vehicle pairs if at all possible.

We returned to the desert many times since, enjoying its incomparable splendor and collecting some very fine material. But never again have we underestimated its dangers.

Thank you Lawrence, from all of us in the Society, for this story, we are sure everyone enjoyed and learned from these experiences.

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DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU FEEL MIGHT ENTERTAINING, HUMEROUS OR UNUSUAL? Don't be shy! Share with us. Send your items to the P.O. Box, and space permitting, you too can be published.
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WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN AND WHY

WHO: The American Opal Society

WHAT: "The Opal Show" - AOS's annual Show and Sale. "The" event of the year.

WHERE: Why, at the Quality Inn in Anaheim, that's where!

WHEN: Well, on two very exciting and special days, on November 3 and 4.

WHY: Well, because that's what we DO. That's why we ARE the American Opal Society. It's our PURPOSE, our GOAL, our REASON to be.

OPAL TERMS

FROM OPAL ADVENTURES
Downing, PHD

By Paul B.

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AUGER - A drill system used to prospect shafts for opal.
BALLROOM - Widening of a tunnel to search for a concentration of opal.
BAROQUE - An opal cut into an irregular shape.
BASE COLOR -The background color of an opal.
BELLEMNITE - An opalized fossil of an ancient squid-like animal - see Pipe.
BLACK OPAL - An opal having a dark background or base color.
BLOB - A roundish flat pancake shaped piece of opal resembling a nobby.
BOULDER OPAL - An ironstone concretion with cracks filled with precious opal.
BRIGHTNESS - The intensity of the flashes of fire coming from the opal.
BROADFLASH FIRE - Sheets of color usually covering a large section of the surface.
CABOCHAN - The rounded shape used in cutting most opals.
CALIBRATED OPAL - Opals cut to standard dimensions. They are usually ovals, but may be other shapes.
CALWELD DRILL - (Caldwell) A 36 inch diameter drill used to sink shafts.
CHEAPS - Inexpensive opal rough, the least valuable part of a find.
CHIPS - Small pieces of bright opal often purchased by Hong Kong cutters.
CLASSER - An expert in rough opal value who separates and prices a miner's opal.
CLAY - See Kaolinite
CLEARING THE FIELD - Buying all the rough opal available on a field at that time.
COLOR BAND - See Lines of Color.
CONCRETE -Clay cemented together with common or precious opal.
CONTRA LUZ - An opal which shows a play of color when viewed with light from behind the stone.
CRYSTAL OPAL - A transparent opal with bright flashes of color. Q~AZ~) - Opals that have developed many little cracks.
CUTTING -The process of shaping an opal and through a series of finer and finer grits, polishing its surface.
DOUBLET -A two-part stone consisting of a thin slice of precious opal glued to a thicker stone background (or a thin slice of opal topped with a quartz cap).
DUFFER - A hole where the miners did not find any opal.
FANCY PANTS -Rare and unusual patterns that do not fit readily into one of the common pattern types.
FAULT -A break in the ground usually associated with movement. Thought to be a guide to finding opal.
FIELD -A contiguous area where opal is mined.
FIRE -The play of colors from within a opal caused by diffraction of light.
FIRE OPAL -The orange base color jelly opal usually from Mexico with or without a play of color. Sometimes the term is incorrectly used to refer to any opal with a play of colors. Opals with a play of color are correctly called precious opals.
FLASHFIRE - Larger areas of fire than pinfire and usually somewhat irregular in shape.
FOSSICKING -Looking on the surface of the ground for opal. No tools may be used, unlike noodling.
FREE SIZE - Opals cut into ovals of non-standard dimensions.
GILSON OPAL - A synthetic opal originally made in Switzerland.
GREY OPAL - A light grey base color.
HARLEQUIN - A series of square or angular flashes of fire closely set together.
HYDROPHANE -Opal with a porous structure which absorbs water. White when dry, often transparent when wet.
THITF2~ISIT! OF FIRE - The brightness of the play of color in a precious opal.
JELLY OPAL - A clear or translucent opal with only a blue iridescence and no play of color.
KAOLINITE - The clay in which some opal is found.
KOPI - See kaolinite.
LINEN4INTS - Surface indicators of fault lines.
LINES OF (XBXR -Precious opal flashes formed in nature as one or more relatively straight lines.
MATHIX OPAL - Precious opal mixed with other rock.
MAGPIE POTCH - A black and grey potch from Sheeppark fields in Lightning Ridge.

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- MOUNTAIN OPAL - Australian opal found in a rhyolite similar to Mexican opal.
- MULLOCK - The waste from an opal mine brought to the surface.
- NIGHT STONE - An opal which shows very bright play of color in low light.
- NOBBY - A roundish opal found in the clay of Lightning Ridge.
- NOODLING - Searching through surface waste from a mine seeking opal missed by the miner.
- OPAL FIELD - A concentration of fields covering a substantial area.
- OPALITE -An imitation opal made in Hong Kong.
- OPEN CUT - A large pit dug to the opal level using a bulldozer.
- PAINTED LADY - A quartzite boulder containing veins of precious opal.
- PATTERN -The mixture of size of flashes of color.
- PEGGING PARTY - The rush to peg claims in the neighborhood of a new find.
- PILLAR A portion of the opal level left in place to support the mine roof.
- PINEAPPLE - Opal replacing a calcite crystal mass.
- PINFIRE -Small pinpoint circles of fire.
- PIPE -A long round tube of opal. In Coober Pedy pipes are opalized belemnite fossils but in other locations they do not have any explanation for this peculiar opal formation.
- PLANT -Rough opal placed in a bag or tin box and buried for safekeeping in the early mining days.
- POLISHING - See Cutting.
- Potch - Common opal showing no play of color.
- PRECIOUS OPAL - Opal with a play of color.
- ROLLING FIASHFIRE -Sheets of color which roll across the surface of an opal as it is moved.
- RUBBED - An opal that has been worked by the miner to determine if it has potential for producing a good stone.
- RUBBING - The process of grinding away sane unwanted patch to expose the opal's color.
- SEAM OPAL - A relatively continuous sheet of opal found in a parent rock. It is usually horizontal or parallel to the surface.
- SELF TIPPER - A bucket which automatically raises to the surface and dumps mine waste.
- SEMI-BLACK - A medium grey base color a shade lighter than true black opal.
- SEMI-CRYSTAL - A translucent opal resembling a crystal opal bit not as clear.
- SLIDE - See Fault.
- SLOCUM STONE - An imitation opal made by John Slocum.
- SPIDER -A piece of metal with a candle stuck on one end and a spike on the other used to provide light for mining.
- STEEL BAND - A line of very hard sandstone often found just above the opal level in Lightning Ridge.
- &IN Sl~E - An opal which shows a play of color only in bright sunlight. TAILINGS - The waste from a mine, also called mullock heaps.
- TOPS -The highest quality part of an opal find.
- TRACES - Very thin lines of opal which indicate that a concentration may be near.
- TRIPLET - A three-part stone consisting of a thin slice of precious opal glued to a thicker stone background with a piece of clear quartz glued on top of the precious opal so the opal is sandwiched between the two stones.
- VERTICAL OR VERTICAL SEAM -A seam of opal that is perpendicular or on an angle to the surface rather than parallel to it.
- WHITE OPAL - A white base color, sometimes called milk opal.
- WINDLASS - A hand winch used to wind rope, thus lifting a bicket to the surface.
- YOWAH NUTS - Small ironstone concretions with precious opal inclusions from Yowah, Queensland.

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE
(TRY IT, YOU'LL LIKE IT)

C F X A R M G I E S U L G A P O T c H
 A O G W I C T R O p X E Z S E Y J L A
 U B O F T U A I A V D D X S I E Q I B
 J H C B C S V R S J E C T U E L B W L
 E V L O E A I H F E Q O C K D C I N P
 M U K U R R R J U W N R I H T J M C K
 E G U L I T P A D E Y E A V L K G H A
 M I W D U B W E T L V W Q F R O U G H
 B U J E M N H L D R O P M B K Z Q Y S
 E S X R O X R Y A Y T I L A U Q T P A
 R M V L X M G C J A O A I F P R G O L
 S N G N I N I M N U Q B G R E E N E F
 H U O R D S G I D S C Z H G Q R E M Z
 I T U S E C R Y S T A L T S P H P O L
 P Y W L L S E T Z R D A N O W H X S K
 C B Z Q C I J T Y A X I I D M N W O O
 H P A J K H G N I L E N N U T V Q C R
 M G D G E M N G O I L O G F P W M I N
 L X I O N X H J R A M H R R N O P E O
 N F K X K I G O P A L C I O I N S T S
 B K E L M F L M I E U A D Q U T Z Y X
 S Y E P E O W D F V R B G S Q L H N I
 Y J O X C Z Y H O D Z A E K E B S M R
 N R G U F I G P I O J C U Q L L I V T
 T F N L A D E B R E N A T U R A L M A
 H T O D G N T Q T H A G D A A C O B M
 E M F A C M Z U C A T B V M H K P O I
 T H W U X B G E A F U T D P Q X D Y L
 I S T B U P R E C I O U S A C E B W K
 C A C K B J L N W A T N Q U I L P E Y

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| 1. AUSTRALIA | 23. MATRIX |
| 2. BLACK | 24. MEMBERSHIP |
| 3. BLUE | 25. MILKY |
| 4. BOULDER | 26. MINING |
| 5. CABACHON | 27. NATURAL |
| 6. CARAT | 28. NOODLING |
| 7. CARVE | 29. NUT |
| 8. CERIUM OXIDE | 30. OPAL |
| 9. COLOR | 31. OPEN CUT |
| 10. COOBER PEDY | 32. POLISH |
| 11. CRYSTAL | 33. POTCH |
| 12. CUT | 34. PRECIOUS |
| 13. DIAMOND WHEEL | 35. QUALITY |
| 14. EXPORT | 36. QUEEN |
| 15. FLASH | 37. QUILPEY |
| 16. GEM | 38. ROUGH |
| 17. GILSON- | 39. SILICA |
| 18. GREEN | 40. SOCIETY |
| 19. HARLEQUIN | 41. STONE |
| 20. IMPORT | 42. SYNTHETIC |
| 21. JEWELRY | 43. TUNNELING |
| 22. LIGHTNING RIDGE | 44. YOWAH |

THEY'RE ALL THERE, ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS
 FIND THEM. I KNOW THEY'RE IN THERE,
 'CAUSE I PUT'EM THERE. JUST SO YOU DON'T
 CHEAT TOO SOON, THE SOLUTION WILL BE IN
 NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER. IF YOU LIKE THIS
 ONE, LET ME KNOW, MAYBE WE CAN PUT
 TOGETHER ANOTHER ONE SOMETIME. JOYCE