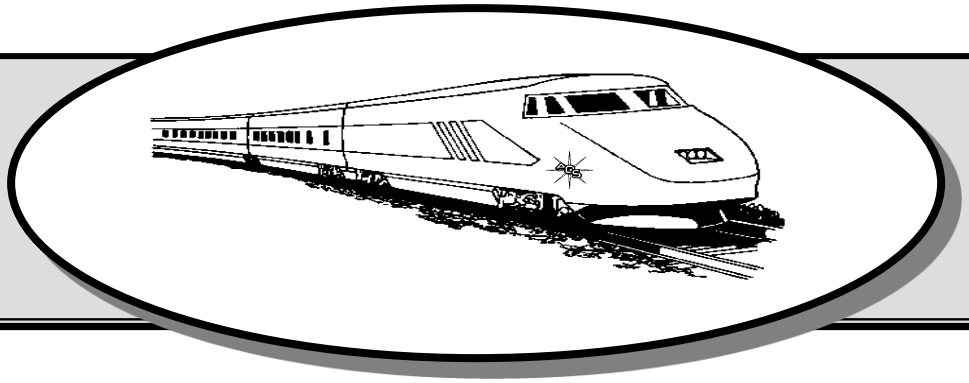
The Opal Express



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Members Only Website Password

Name: "member"; Password: "opalholic".

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Opal Show News

By Veronica Purpura

Here is the status of show. I got a replacement for Michael Quinn, who is out as a sponsor due to cancer treatment (we all wish him luck on a speedy recovery). There are only three small spots left on the show floor plan and all remaining dealers have been notified that they are first come, first paid to get them. Several dealers who already signed up should be in process of sending all remaining payments and paperwork (failure to do so will result in their spots being offered to someone else). Electrical mapping session to be planned for next month. I have requested our gold level sponsor to schedule or prepare a time for a special business write-up for our newsletters. Our insurance is also being renewed and an updated invoice for the facility has been agreed to and signed to acquire extra tables and a PA system for us.

Our annual Opal Gem & Jewelry Show, on **Nov. 5th & 6th,** will have a new home this year at:

The Business Expo Center
1960 S Anaheim Way
Anaheim, CA 92805

See http://www.businessexpocenter.com/

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AOS Facebook Page

The American Opal Society has had a Facebook page for the last three years. Kathy James has volunteered to manage it and is doing a great job adding new content. Please visit and give it some good "LIKES" and add your favorite opal picture, story, article, etc. The AOS Facebook page is located at:

https://www.facebook.com/AmericanOpalSociety

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Important General Meeting Information

The next General meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2016.

The General Meetings will now be held on:

The Fourth (4th) Wednesday of the Month

The new location is:

Garden Grove Masonic Center
11270 Acacia Parkway
Garden Grove, CA 92840

AOS Calendar

Date	Day of Week	Meeting Location	Meeting Topic / Speaker
01/27/16	Wednesday	Garden Grove Masons Lodge	Stan McCall on Quartzsite, Arizona
02/24/16	Wednesday	Garden Grove Masons Lodge	Russ Madsen on Volcanic Opal
03/23/16	Wednesday	Garden Grove Masons Lodge	Opal Appraisal / Workshop Session
04/27/16	Wednesday	Garden Grove Masons Lodge	Stan McCall on Lost Wax Casting / 3D Printing
05/25/16	Wednesday	Garden Grove Masons Lodge	Geology of Opal in the Great Artesian Basin By Pete Goetz
06/22/16	Wednesday	Garden Grove Masons Lodge	Live Opal Auction
07/27/16	Wednesday	Garden Grove Masons Lodge	Pete Goetz on Cutting Lightning Ridge Black Opal
08/24/16	Wednesday	Garden Grove Masons Lodge	Opal Cutting Seminar
09/28/16	Wednesday	Garden Grove Masons Lodge	Opal & Gem Show Work Session #1
10/26/16	**Wednesday**	**Garden Grove Masons Lodge**	**Opal & Gem Show Work Session #2**
11/05/16	Saturday	Business Expo Center	49th Annual Opal & Gem Show
11/06/16	Sunday	Business Expo Center	49th Annual Opal & Gem Show
11/23/16	Wednesday	Garden Grove Masons Lodge	Opal & Gem Show Recap / Possible Speaker
12/28/16	Wednesday	Garden Grove Masons Lodge	AOS Christmas Party Potluck

American Opal Society
PO Box 4875, Garden Grove, CA 92842-4875
website: www.opalsociety.org
email: info@opalsociety.org

September 12, 2016

Dear Opal Society Members

2016 Opal Show Financial Status and **donation request**

Greetings fellow opalholics. This letter will bring you some information about this year's November show and a situation of special financial need faced by your club.

As you are likely aware, the show this year is in a new (significantly more expensive) venue, the Business Expo Center in Anaheim. We are using the Main Hall which is an 11,000 square foot room providing floor space for over 100 dealer tables.

The cost of this facility is significantly greater than prior venues. Pre show expenses are going to use our entire cash reserve and until dealers finish paying their table fees and the admission-paying public has come through the doors we are experiencing a temporary cash flow shortfall.

As a consequence, we are reaching out to you, members of our American Opal Society, to ask that you consider a one-time donation earmarked for Opal Show support.

As of this writing, the dealer tables are fully reserved and there is a waiting list of dealers who want to participate.

Please consider making a generous donation to the Opal Society, a 501c3 educational charity properly registered with the IRS and the California Franchise Tax Board.

Our goal is to raise $3,500.00.

You help will be greatly appreciated.

Pete Goetz
President

President's Message

By Pete Goetz

Greetings fellow opalholics:
This is your September Prez-newz updates.
GENERAL MEETING: our September general meeting takes place Wednesday September 28th 7:00 pm and our topic this month is the Opal Show. We are going to do our annual postcard mailing at the September meeting. We will be labeling and stamping 2,500 show postcards in September because our October general meeting is only a short while before the show.
We had a great turn out for our August meeting. One meeting highlight was the opportunity to purchase reasonably priced parcels of old Australian rough. Our thanks go out to Frank Gross, now an Australian citizen, for this rare opportunity. We look forward to seeing what our members found in their parcels.
The other highlight of the meeting was opal cutting. We had two opal cutting machines running and folks got to try their hand at cutting opal and see how a piece of rough works up going through the range of grits.
There were several new members and guests in the house too! Great news!
BOARD MEETING: the board meets on the third Monday of each month at the Garden Grove Masonic Lodge (corner of Euclid and Garden Grove Blvd. - same building as the general meetings). Members are welcome at all board meetings.
NOTE: the September board meeting has been cancelled due to schedule conflicts.
OPAL SHOW: we are in the final weeks leading up to the show. This event is going to be the biggest and best Opal Show ever and your help as club members is crucial to making it a success. The show this year will be in the main hall at the Business Expo Center in Anaheim. The show floor will be 11,000 square feet, air conditioned and will feature close to 50 dealers with 130 tables of finished and rough opal, other gems, jewelry, books, demonstrations and displays. Tell your friends!!!
Here's how your club needs YOUR HELP. First, we need a lot of help Friday from noon to 6pm getting the dealer tables and other furnishings set up. We also need help all during the show both days at the admission table, helping with errands, selling drawing tickets, new member signups and other tasks. Again, this is YOUR Opal Show, if you don't help the outcome will reflect this. Please volunteer now!!!
Please contact show chair Veronica Purpura or any board member and volunteer your time during the show.
MEETING SPEAKER SCHEDULE: we are looking for someone to take up the role of scheduling meeting speakers. This is another way you can participate in making the club run well. You will be contacting interesting people who have skills and abilities the club will enjoy. The primary focus is on opal, but we are also seeking talks on any & all aspects of jewelry making, metalsmithing, enameling, rockhounding sites, other topics on websites and articles in the literature. Right now, we are looking for a speaker or topic for the October meeting.
Hope to see all you all at the September meeting!!!

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Opal & Gem Show Dealers

By Veronica Purpura

List of confirmed dealers for 2016 AOS show:

1. Gem World Inc. / Gem Cutters Alteir
2. The Gem Garden
3. Mayer Morchy and Assoc.
4. Poor Boys Opals
5. Cary Harris & Co.
6. Tikka Opals
7. Ethiopian Imports
8. Zarina's Exotic Stones
9. OK Opals
10. Business Expo Center
11. Australian Opal Imports
12. Australian Opals (Larry Hoskinson)
13. Los Laureles Opals Mex
14. Keva Krystals
15. Stella Stones and Jewelry
16. Golden Dreams (Scott Warner)
17. Mike Woodward
18. BKW Opals
19. J.Y. Gems
20. Custom Creative
21. Kathleen James Studios
22. Dr. Walter Johnson
23. Toddle Gifts
24. Casa de Lumbre
25. Glidden Enterprises
26. Ken Gard
27. PT Creations/ Protool
28. Janu Gems
29. GemMinas
30. Diamond Bird
31. Robert Shapiro
32. Pereira Jewelry and Design
33. Barrett Opals
34. The Old Man's Chest
35. Ed Quo Co.
36. Beads U Need
37. North OC Mineral Society
38. Route 66 Prospectors
39. SCC Gemology Program
40. CSUF Geology Club

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The World's Biggest Pearl? $100 Million Find Was Kept Under a Bed for 10 Years

By CJ ArlottaAugust 23, 2016

Some people hide money under their mattresses. Others stow firearms in their nightstands. But not many people keep oversized pearls below their beds — at least not for an entire decade.
An unidentified fisherman handed over what may be the largest pearl in the world, the BBC and other news outlets are reporting.
The pearl's owner reportedly found it in a giant clam in sea off the coast of Palawan Island, Philippines — and then kept the 75-pound piece as a "good luck charm" in his wooden home until a fire earlier this year forced him to move. He then handed the one-foot-wide by two-foot-long pearl to a local tourism officer in remote Puerto Princesca.
"We were amazed when he brought it to us. We now need help from gemologists to fully certify it," Tourism Officer Aileen Cynthia Amurao said, according to the *International Business Times*. She

added: “We will keep this here in the Philippines and I hope it will bring more tourists to the city."
Valued at around $100 million, the pearl is estimated to be worth $65 million more than the pearl currently listed in the books as the record holder, the Pearl of Allah, which was also found off Palawan, Philippines.
Earlier this year, the second-biggest gem quality diamond ever recovered failed to sell at auction when bidding failed to meet the $70 million minimum that auction house Sotheby’s had hoped to get.
From https://www.yahoo.com/style/world-biggest-pearl-100-million-190200338.html?soc_src=mail&soc_trk=ma
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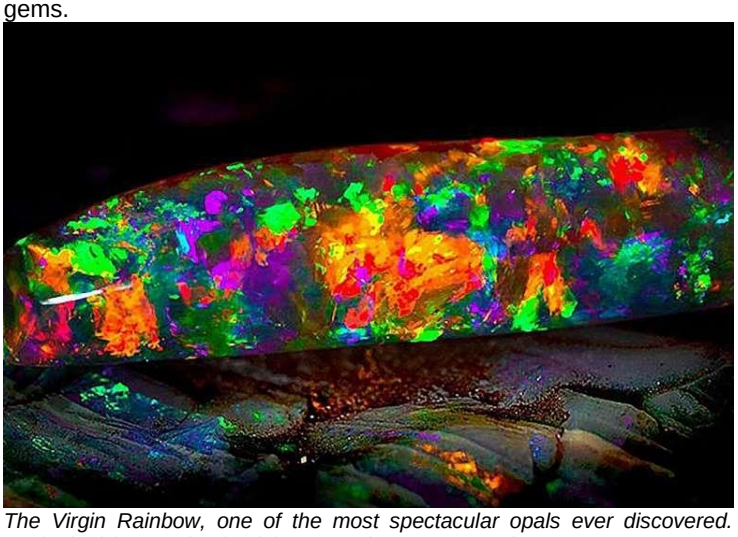
Big Opal Finds Prove Elusive in Australia

Mr Dunstan, who discovered the Virgin Rainbow 13 years ago, says there is little doubt there are still big finds waiting to be uncovered, but concerns about the future of the once-thriving industry remain. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YOKA DUNSTAN

Veteran miners hope the soaring prices of stones will attract a new wave of prospectors

Jonathan Pearlman For The Straits Times In Sydney Sep 25, 2016

Thirteen years ago, opal miner John Dunstan was digging in an old shaft in a remote region in central Australia when he struck it lucky.
Using an excavator near his home town of Coober Pedy, he unearthed a 6cm stone that was to be one of the most spectacular opals ever discovered.
He eventually sold the stone, called the Virgin Rainbow, three years ago to the South Australian Museum in Adelaide. It is estimated to be worth over A$1 million (S$1.03 million).
But Mr Dunstan is the first to admit that it has been a long time since anyone in the opal mining territory around Coober Pedy has come across another "rainbow".
"The prices are soaring because we can't find the opals," he told The Sunday Times. "Most of the fields close to Coober Pedy have been worked out."
Australia is by far the world's largest producer of precious opals and accounts for about 90 per cent of the global supply.
The lack of big finds in recent years - combined with increased demand from China and India - has caused a surge in prices.
The shortage of quality stones has raised concerns about the future of a once-thriving industry that has long attracted get-rich-quick prospectors from around the world to small Australian towns.
Veteran miners such as Mr Dunstan say there is little doubt that big finds are waiting to be uncovered.
They are hoping that a new wave of prospectors will be lured by the soaring prices, which have doubled in the past 18 months to about A$12,000 per carat for high-quality gems.
"We desperately need a new opal field found in Coober Pedy to supply the market," Mr Dunstan said.
While Australia exports an estimated A$85 million worth of opals a year, the industry is believed to be worth hundreds of millions of dollars because it attracts large numbers of domestic and international tourists to outback areas.
Opals, a hydrated form of the mineral silica, are typically mined by digging tunnels into the ground, spreading out horizontally to try to follow potential seams of so-called "opal dirt" which may contain intact gems.



The Virgin Rainbow, one of the most spectacular opals ever discovered. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

The Lightning Ridge fields in the state of New South Wales, about 720km north-west of Sydney, have one of the world's largest supplies of black opal. This is the most precious form of opal because the dark body enhances the depth of the patchwork of bright colours.
But, as in Coober Pedy, the stones are proving elusive.
Australian opal exporter Damien Cody of Cody Opal said there were growing concerns that opals might prove to be a "finite resource" with only 20 to 30 years left for future finds.
"The normal rules of supply and demand don't necessarily apply in the gem industry," he told SBS News last month.
"So as a stone becomes very rare, people see less of it. There's less hype out there in the gem-buying world and it can disappear off the gem -buying map."
The strong international demand and rising prices have helped to increase interest from prospectors.
The state authorities in South Australia have granted 84 mining permits since last year to prospectors wanting to mine in the Coober Pedy fields, compared with 63 in the previous year.

Opal prices have soared in the past 18 months. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YOKA DUNSTAN

But this is still a drastic change from the heyday in the 1970s and 1980s. There are now about 100 active miners in the area, compared with as many as 800 in the 1980s.
Mr Dunstan, who grew up in the region and has been mining for more than 50 years, said prospectors now have to travel further afield - more than 50km from the town - or try to blast through thick rock near local mines to find the stones.
"There are grounds where the big opals have been found but they are covered with rock. Not many people want to drill through rock."
He added: "I believe there are still multimillion-dollar runs here but they are so hard to find."
A version of this article appeared in the print edition of The Sunday Times on September 25, 2016, with the headline 'Big opal finds prove elusive in Australia'.
++

Calif. Prospector Finds Steak-Sized Gold Nugget

Oscar Espinoza shows up gold nugget he found

JAMESTOWN, Calif. — There's gold in 'dem der hills!
A prospector in central California found a gold nugget the size of a t-bone steak, reports CBS affiliate KPIX in San Francisco.
Now local businesses in in a little town of Jamestown, California about 60 east of Stockton, are banking on a modern gold rush.
It was Tuesday afternoon when the owner of the Jamestown Hotel got word his friend had struck gold. He was expecting to see a nugget but …
"Oh my god," said Charlie Morgan when he first saw how big it was. "I thought that's a lucky guy!"
The lucky friend was Oscar Espinoza of Modesto.
Espinoza told the folks at Gold Prospecting Adventures he'd been searching in nearby Woodscreek. But he didn't say where exactly.
The nugget weighs about 18 ounces. Morgan believes he could get $70,000 for it.
Owner Bryant Shock calls it a rare find that he says will spark collectors' interest, and that could drive up the price up four or five times higher.
"It's more valuable this way because it's a piece of history and his meltdown is just another piece of gold," says Shock.
Espinoza is keeping a low profile but has asked Morgan to keep it in a safe until he finds a buyer.
"He felt more secure with it being put away," said Morgan. "The safe isn't actually here, so nobody knows where it is."
2016 CBS Interactive Inc.

Comments:

Lewis Balentine
Dang small steak!

Hoffa,J
Looks like we are all in agreement here- that is an awfully small steak, and I am a vegetarian!
---
goldenrod33
A steak? A very petite sized steak in any restaurant I've ever eaten at.

ANTI-CLINTON September 6, 2016 6:6PM
@goldenrod33 Bone-in pork chop, maybe.....

USADoug September 6, 2016 2:2PM
Now local businesses in in a little town of Jamestown, California about 60 east of Stockton, are banking on a modern gold rush.

#TeamLucifer
Based on the size of it sitting on his hand, it was a very small T-bone steak.

@#TeamLucifer
A minute steak I suppose.
---
notparicular
Does he have to pay taxes?

@notparicular
He will be lucky to keep it, someone else or entente will claim they have the mineral rights or claim it came from.
---
john92021
That's not even a breakfast steak.
From http://www.cbsnews.com/news/calif-prospector-finds-steak-sized-gold-nugget/
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The following are the final chapters of the book From Rags to Riches, by Peter Greisl. The first forty chapters were published in the Opal Express from September 2011 through Nov. 2013. The Editor

From Rags to Riches

Chapter 60 - The Share Cut

Finally the baby is born, I have made a deal with Laszlo, and he had a 1957 FC Holden which is 13 years old and it was in good nick he offered it to me in exchange for my smashed VW and a couple hundred dollars. As I have to watch my pennies now I made him a counter offer of my car and a couple hundred dollars in opal. To which he agreed.
So I have this FC and we have the Dodge Ute so we are all mobile again. I went to the shop and did my duties, and this particular day I had a visit from one of the Pisani Brothers, Giuseppe nick named Joe. He said to me that he heard I am looking for someone to do a Share Cut. As we had an encounter on Tee Tree Hill several months ago I remembered the Pisani brothers have this huge dozer, an Allis Chalmers D21, and Allan McCormack had a D3 Dozer you can imagine the size of this monster and the power it has compared to Allan's.
I said to Joe, "Yes Joe I am looking for someone who wants to do the cut for me on a 60 - 40% split of the find." "I spoke with Allan and he said he cannot do it, I am working in 36 feet ground and he would require at least 12 hours." Joe said," You now the machine we have it is twice the size of Allan's." "I know but what Allan has which is worth more than the power of a machine is expertise, and he has that, if I say to Allan I want 3 inches of dirt on top of the level, that is what he gives me, if I say to him I want a floor area of 50 by 100 feet that is what I get."
I don't think that you guys got the experience." I tell you, I don't want to sound unfair, we can do a Share cut some time later, but if you stuff up I don't mean this nasty, what I mean if you don't deliver what I want and you destroy this claim, then the deal is off and you get nothing no compensation for fuel or time or anything." If you and your brothers

agree to this then we have a deal." Joe extended his hand and said can we meet at Gus's place this evening my brother and I will be there and we seal a deal for when you are ready to do it."
I agreed and he left. Doug came in and said "I heard all that," good I replied "that means I have a witness in case I need one." He nodded and just said "be careful," I agreed and carried on with my work.
When I finished I went to the claim and saw Johnny who was just pulling the last bucket.
He saw me and I made the sign to cut the motors, which he did.
I told him what happened in the shop and he did not show much enthusiasm about the whole matter. Just said to me, "Can you trust them," to which I replied, "Well I give everyone the benefit of the doubt, as long as they stick to my terms I can't see any problems." Johnny said, "You're the Boss if it is ok with you then I am ok with it." We still have to watch them like a hawk, and if anything goes wrong we have to stop them immediately." We meet this evening at Gus's place so we go straight from here."
Johnny said "I am shutting down everything and I meet you there," "I am going home to drop off the meat and inform Chris of what's going on and then I meet you there and we have a listen what they want and what we have to offer."
I left and went home and told Chris, she also said be very careful.
I nodded Ok and kissed her on the Cheek and left.
Having arrived at Gus's place there was Ludwig and Klaus, I walked over and joined them and had a beer, Johnny walked and he joined us.
I told Ludwig what we have in mind and he also said "be cautious, and If you don't mind we sit at the table next to you and the Pisani's so we can hear everything and you got it then tied up." I kept asking "why is everyone so skeptical about and off the Pisani Brothers."
Klaus answered, for some reason they never mix with anyone only in their nationality group, the found a very large parcel in Coober Pedy, Did you know there are four brothers? Giuseppe, Luigi, which are here and Dominic and Salvatore is still in Coober Pedy working."
I replied "I did not know that," The two came to Andamooka to see if they can corner both fields, anyhow be careful just the same."
I nodded and I looked towards the door and in walked Giuseppe and Luigi, I walked over and we shook hands I introduced Johnny to them, I steered the toward a table where the next one over is empty, we sat down the slowly Ludwig and Klaus walked over to the empty table, the Pisani's just looked and Ludwig and Klaus tilted their heads in a greeting gesture.
Luigi ordered 4 beers and we toasted, I opened and said to Luigi "I had a visit from your brother and he was well informed about my situation with a Share cut, he offered to do a share cut and I told him of my conditions, which he agreed to as he said before he left the shop to meet with you here tonight to seal the deal."
"Before you agree to anything I like to outline my conditions, and what I offer as a share and what I expect to get."
"First the share is 60% to us and 40% to you, there is absolute no cost to us for any labor or fuel etc. In other words if nothing comes out of the cut, we just part company without owing to each other anything."
"Second I will provide legal ground for you to push the dirt so you don't have any problems with other miners or the warden, you will have enough area to push the dirt both ways."
What I expect is, a workable area of 40 feet wide by 100 feet long with not more than about 6 to 8inches on top of the level, I expect to have straight walls on both sides, your blade is 20 feet wide so you should have no problem producing 40 feet by 100 feet floor level, the reason for that is I expect to have a couple parcels buried here within this perimeter."
Now here are the conditions, if you mutilate the cut and do not give straight walls, if you leave to much dirt on top of the level or take out part of the level with the dozer, the deal is off immediately and I want you to vacate the claim and no compensation is offered."
I don't like to be disrespect full but how many cuts have you done, Luigi said "actually speaking only one for us." "So basically you like to learn on my claims," I replied.
"That's why all these conditions, It is very simple Allan McCormack can do all what I ask with his eyes closed, unfortunately he cannot take any chance at the moment he is a bit strapped for cash, otherwise he would that cut."
I looked across to the table of Ludwig and I saw him showing me thumbs up sign. I continued, "If you have any problem with that then let's forget about it and just enjoy the beer."
I turned to Ludwig and Klaus and said, "Hey guys, we finally going to have a cut put in, Klaus said we heard the whole conversation, I think what Peter is asking is very fair, because you could due to inexperience destroy a fortune of Opal he addressed the Pisani Brothers. They nodded and said "we will do our best and not rush the whole process,"
When can we start," I looked at Johnny and he said "We not quite ready yet, but as soon as we are we will be in touch immediately with you but I would say a few weeks, to finalize our underground work because the dozer would destroy everything with his weight and all the drives and tunnels would collapse when you get lower to the level" Luigi said "we understand that, is no problem you call on us when you ready and we do the job." Luigi looked at Giuseppe and they nodded and stretched out their hands and said we got a deal, "With that settled we shook hands and we all had another round of beer, including Klaus and Ludwig.
We said our good byes and we left for home, Chris was waiting with some nice dinner and my little prince is in his crib in the lounge and sleeping peacefully, Beatrix is hardly in the house any more she spends a lot of time in her cubby, and she is very contented, and a very good little sister, she loves the boy, we came up with a name, we decided we call him Roger, everyone liked that.
I sat down and was quiet happy with the results from this meeting, we had a lovely meal and yawned for a while and we went to bed.
I think it took not more than 5 minutes before I started cutting Timber.
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Antarctic Meteorite Found Containing Opal, Scientists Say

By Jayson MacLean, June 28, 2016

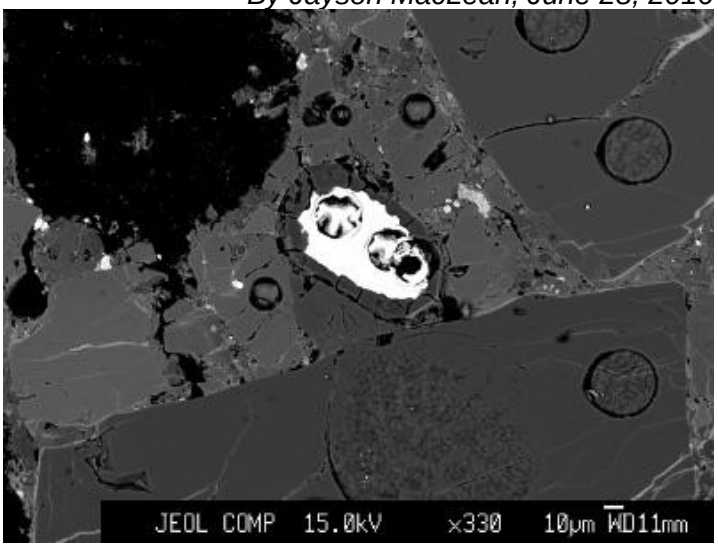

Image: H. Downes

A team of scientists working in Antarctica have found a meteorite containing pieces of the precious stone opal, providing further proof that asteroids in our solar system likely received their water from collisions with water-carrying meteorites.
The team led by geochemistry professor Hilary Downes of Birkbeck College London determined that the meteorite named EET 83309, composed of thousands of pieces of rock and minerals, had impacted with an asteroid billions of years ago, whereupon the Sun's radiation had over time transformed the water in its structure to crystallized opal.

"The pieces of opal we have found are either broken fragments or they are replacing other minerals," says Downes, whose findings were recently presented at the 2016 National Astronomy Meeting in Nottingham, U.K. "Our evidence shows that the opal formed before the meteorite was blasted off from the surface of the parent asteroid and sent into space, eventually to land on Earth in Antarctica."

This is the first evidence of opal, which is made of up to 30 per cent water, to have formed on the surface of an asteroid and provides another clue to the mystery of how the water that makes up the Earth's oceans actually got here in the first place.

Competing theories have it that water was either part of Earth's structure from its initial formation or that it was brought here by asteroids or comets through a multitude of impacts with the Earth's surface, during a period known as the late heavy bombardment approximately 800 million years after the Earth's formation.

And although both asteroids and comets are known to contain water, experts are now less convinced of the theory that comets brought us our water, in part due to findings from the European Space Agency's Rosetta spacecraft which successfully orbited and landed a probe on a comet named 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko. Rosetta's analyses of the comet's gases determined that its water has a different "trademark" ratio of deuterium to hydrogen than water found on Earth, making it very unlikely that comets similar to 67P could have been the source of Earth's water.

The idea that asteroids were the primary source of Earth's water also took a hit last year when scientists studying lava rocks from Baffin Island in northern Canada found glass crystals containing tiny droplets of water embedded in the rock. Researchers believe that this water can trace its origins to the water-soaked dust grains that were present in our solar system at the time of Earth's formation, subsequently buried deep within the Earth's mantle only to rise to the surface in lava flows such as those preserved on Baffin Island.

The findings of opal in the Antarctic meteorite are just the second such discovery, after scientists investigating the Tagish Lake meteorite which landed on Tagish Lake in Northern BC on January 18, 2000, found opal-like crystals in the rock, giving evidence that water must have been present in the meteorite.

The new results give further insight into the water content on asteroids. "This is more evidence that meteorites and asteroids can carry large amounts of water ice," says Downes. "Although we rightly worry about the consequences of the impact of large asteroid, billions of years ago they may have brought the water to the Earth and helped it become the world teeming with life that we live in today."

About Jayson MacLean *Jayson MacLean writes about science and technology for Cantech Letter. Jayson is a writer, researcher and educator with a PhD in political philosophy from the University of Ottawa. His interests range from bioethics and innovations in the health sciences to governance, social justice and the history of ideas. From http://www.cantechletter.com/2016/06/antarctic-meteorite-found-containing-coal-scientists/*

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September 2016 Gem & Mineral Shows

More shows can be found at http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?ShowState=ALL

September-October 2016

28-2—JOSHUA TREE, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; The Hi-Desert Rockhounds and the Sportsman's Club of Joshua Tree, Sportsman's Club of Joshua Tree; 6225 Sunburst Street; Daily 9-6; Free Admission; 41th Annual Joshua Tree Gem, Mineral and Craft Show. The Hi-Desert Rockhounds and the Sportsman's Club of Joshua Tree present their Annual Gem, Mineral and Craft Show. There will be rocks, minerals, jewelry, gold panning and more. Something for everyone. ; contact Wayne Hamilton, 6225 Sunburst Street, Joshua Tree, CA 92252, (760)-366-2915; e-mail: jtsportsmans@ymail.com; Web site: http://www.jtsportsmansclub.com/gem.html

30-2—DEL MAR, CALIFORNIA: Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc, Del Mar Fairgrounds; 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission $7 weekend pass, Children 11 and under free; Fine jewelry, precious & semi-precious gemstones, millions of beads, crystals, gold & silver, pearls, minerals, fossils & much more at manufacturer's prices. Exhibitors from around the world will be on site. Jewelry repair & cleaning while you shop. Free hourly door prizes. ; contact Yooy Nelson, (503)-252-8300; e-mail: info@gemfaire.com; Web site: http://www.gemfaire.com

30-2—CAMP VERDE, ARIZONA: Annual show; Mingus Gem & Mineral club, Cliff Castle Casino; 555 W. MiddleVerdeRd.; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; $3.00, $3.00, $3.00, under 12 free; The Lodge Hotel & Conference Center at Cliff Castle Casino in Camp Verde, Arizona - offering easy interstate access - major 1-17 traffic source - variety of dinning experience- shuttle service for guests - full RV hookup sites available at Distant Drums RV Park with shuttle service to and from the Venue A. A separate room for kid's event, with games and some very special presentations from some of the best vendors.; contact Donald Strong , 1930 Peregrine Ln, Clarkdale, AZ 86324, 928-649-3935; e-mail: d.strong42@yahoo.com; Web site: mingusgemmineralclub.org

1-2—VISTA, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Vista Gem and Mineral Soc., Antique Gas Steam Engine Museum; 2040 N. Santa Fe Ave. ; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; Indoor and outdoor dealers rough rock, slabs, jewelry and much more. Held in conjunction with fiber arts fair.; contact Ray Pearce, 753 Abbywood Dr., Oceanside, CA 92057, (760)-535-5524; e-mail: raysrocks@cox.net

7-9—MOAB , UTAH: Annual show; Moab Points and Pebbles Club, Old Spanish Trail Arena; 3641 S. Highway 191; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; Rock, gem mineral and lapidary arts vendors. Equipment, supplies displays, demos. Spin wheel, Door prizes. Food concession on premise. ; contact Jerry Hansen, P. O. Box 1459, Moab, UT 84532; e-mail: moabrockclub@live.com

7-9—BUCKEYE, ARIZONA: Annual show; West Valley Rock & Mineral Club, Helzapoppin' Arena; 802 North 1st Street (Miller Road); Fri. 9-4, Sat. 9-4, Sun. 9-4; Admission $3, Free Admission for Children; Open air event, rocks, gems, jewelry, minerals, fossils, beads, slabs, cabochons, rock scavenger hunt and demonstrations. Snacks and beverages available.; contact Lara Serbin, 423 Monroe Ave, Buckeye, AZ 85326, (602)-405-2926; e-mail: lara@serbinstudio.com; Web site: http://www.westvalleyrockandmineralclub.com/

7-9—SACRAMENTO , CALIFORNIA: Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc, Scottish Rite Center; 6151 H St; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission $7 weekend pass, Children 11 and under free; Fine jewelry, precious & semi-precious gemstones, millions of beads, crystals, gold & silver, pearls, minerals, fossils & much more at manufacturer's prices. Exhibitors from around the world will be on site. Jewelry repair & cleaning while you shop. Free hourly door prizes. ; contact Yooy Nelson, (503)-252-8300; e-mail: info@gemfaire.com; Web site: http://www.gemfaire.com

7-9—SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH: Annual show; Mineral Collectors of Utah, Trolley Square; 600 South entrance & 700 East; Fri. 12-9, Sat. 10-9, Sun. 10-5; Free Admission; Exhibit showcases, wheel of fortune, grab bags, identifications, membership applications. Grand prize drawing at 4pm Sunday. Hourly drawings. Great family fun and educational in the earth sciences. ; contact Curt & Carol Forrester, Salt Lake City, UT; e-mail: fossilmin@gmail.com

8-9—SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA: Annual show; Huachuca Mineral and Gem Club, Cochise College; 901 N. Colombo Ave; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; 42nd Annual gem, mineral, and jewelry show. There will be vendors inside and outside. Largest selection of geodes around. Free gem stone identification by certified gemologist. Raw and finished minerals, jewelry, jewelry/lapidary supplies. Hourly raffles.; contact Maudie Bailey, 5036 S. San Carlos, Sierra Vista, AZ 85650, (520)-378-6291 / (520)-249-1541; e-mail: gmbailey@msn.com

8-9—TRONA, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society, Show and Lapidary Building of SLG&MS; 13337 Main St.; Sat. 7:30-5, Sun. 7:30-4; Free Admission; Three large mineral collecting field trip to Searles Dry Lake. Collect rare and beautiful saline mineral specimens including the beautiful Searles lake pink halite.; contact Bonnie Fairchild, (760)-372-5356; e-mail: slgms@iwvisp.com; Web site: www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/

14-16—PAHRUMP, NEVADA: Annual show; Pahrump Valley Rock Hounds, Petrack Park; 150 NV-160 & Basin Ave; Fri. 11-9, Sat. 9-9, Sun. 9-4; Free Admission; Renowned national and international gold, gem, and mineral vendors. International gold, gem, and mineral specimen display. Rock wheel of fortune, lapidary cutting, polishing, wire wrapping, and knapping demonstrations. Hourly raffle of gem and mineral themed items. Gold ore processing and panning demonstrations. Rock collection field trips. Specialty food vendor court. Hospitality tent at international food court. Gem, mineral, gold, arts & crafts display & competition. 50/50 Cash Drawing for Scholarship. Western Gunfighter show. Arts and crafts display.; contact Bill Wertz, PO Box# 3409, Pahrump, NV 89041; e-mail: info@pahrumpROCKS.com; Web site: PahrumpROCKS.com

14-16—COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA: Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc, OC Fair & Event Center; 88 Fair Dr; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5;

Admission $7 weekend pass, Children 11 and under free; Fine jewelry, precious & semi-precious gemstones, millions of beads, crystals, gold & silver, pearls, minerals, fossils & much more at manufacturer's prices. Exhibitors from around the world will be on site. Jewelry repair & cleaning while you shop. Free hourly door prizes. ; contact Yooy Nelson, (503)-252-8300; e-mail: info@gemfaire.com; Web site: http://www.gemfaire.com

15-15—WEST HILLS, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Woodland Hills Rock Chippers, First United Methodist Church; 22700 Sherman Way; Sat. 10-5; Free Admission; Our 2016 show features dealers, displays, a country store, silent auctions, games, food, rocks, fossils, and demonstrations. There will be free hourly drawings, and a prize raffle that is held during our show.; contact Mary Beth Pio; e-mail: mb.mtcanvas@gmail.com

15-16—LEWISTON, IDAHO: Annual show; Hells Canyon Gem Club, Nezperce County Fair Building; 1229 Burrell Avenue; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission $3, Children 12 and under free; There will be kid's corner, demonstrators, silent auction, raffle, plenty of vendors, and lots of showcases.; contact Linn Enger, (208)-746-4957; e-mail: engerocks@yahoo.com

15-16—BRISTOL, CONNETICUT: Annual show; Bristol Gem and Mineral Club, Beals Community Center; 240 Stafford Ave; Sat. 9:30-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults $5, Seniors $4, Children under 12 free ; Gems, jewelry, fossils, and crystals, educational exhibits, children's games, hands-on demonstrations, food and refreshments.; contact Deb Potter, (203)-727-4520; e-mail: BristolGem@hotmail.com; Web site: www.bristolgem.org

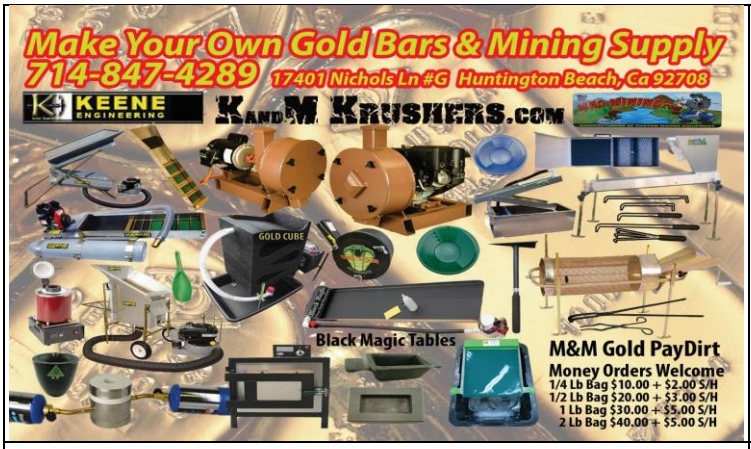
15-16—SEDONA, ARIZONA: Annual show; Sedona Gem and Mineral Club, Sedona H.S.; Upper Red Rock Loop Rd; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults $3, Children under 12 Free; 17th annual show and sale, indoors and outdoors, dealers, displays, kids adventure, hourly and grand raffle prizes, minerals, agates, gemstones, copper, jewelry and jewelry supplies, lapidary tools and supplies.; contact Bill Schwartz, 75 Sheath Dr, Sedona, AZ 86336, (928)-821-3900; e-mail: bschwar13@msn.com; Web site: www.sedonagemandmineral.org

21-23—WEST JORDAN, UTAH: Annual show; Rockhounders Outreach for Community Knowledge (R.O.C.K.), Viridian Library and Event Center; 8030 South 1825 West; Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; Admission $2, Children under 12 free; There will be fossils, minerals, gems and jewelry on display and for sale. Hands-on activities for everyone. Come build your own rock collection. Door prizes and a Silent Auction will be going on daily. ; contact Angela McMahon, (801)-634-5167; e-mail: utahninnj@aol.com; Web site: http://www.rockhoundersock.com/

21-23—SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA: Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc, Sonoma County Fairgrounds; 1350 Bennett Valley Rd; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission $7 weekend pass, Children 11 and under free; Fine jewelry, precious & semi-precious gemstones, millions of beads, crystals, gold & silver, pearls, minerals, fossils & much more at manufacturer's prices. Exhibitors from around the world will be on site. Jewelry repair & cleaning while you shop. Free hourly door prizes. ; contact Yooy Nelson, (503)-252-8300; e-mail: info@gemfaire.com; Web site: http://www.gemfaire.com

22-23—LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Peninsula Gem and Geology Society, Los Altos Youth Center; 1 North San Antonio Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Admission $5, Children under 12 free; contact Steve Jobe, P.O.Box 4062, Los Altos, CA 94024, (408)-834-5384; e-mail: steve_jobe@sbcglobal.net; Web site: pggs.org

28-30—BOISE, IDAHO: Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc, Expo Idaho; 5610 Glenwood; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission $5 weekend pass, Children 11 and under free; Fine jewelry, precious & semi-precious gemstones, millions of beads, crystals, gold & silver, pearls, minerals, fossils & much more at manufacturer's prices. Exhibitors from around the world will be on site. Jewelry repair & cleaning while you shop. Free hourly door prizes. ; contact Yooy Nelson, (503)-252-8300; e-mail: info@gemfaire.com; Web site: http://www.gemfaire.com



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Are Your Dues Due Now?

PLEASE CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL or NEWSLETTER E-MAIL. There should be a date that shows the current month/year of your membership. If the date is older than the current date, your dues are overdue. A warning will be stated if you are overdue.
A Renewal Grace Period of two months will be provided. Please note, however, that as the system is now set up, if your renewal is not received you will be AUTOMATICALLY dropped from membership thereafter. It is your responsibility to assure your dues are current.
Thank you,
The Editor

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American Opal Society
P.O. Box 4875
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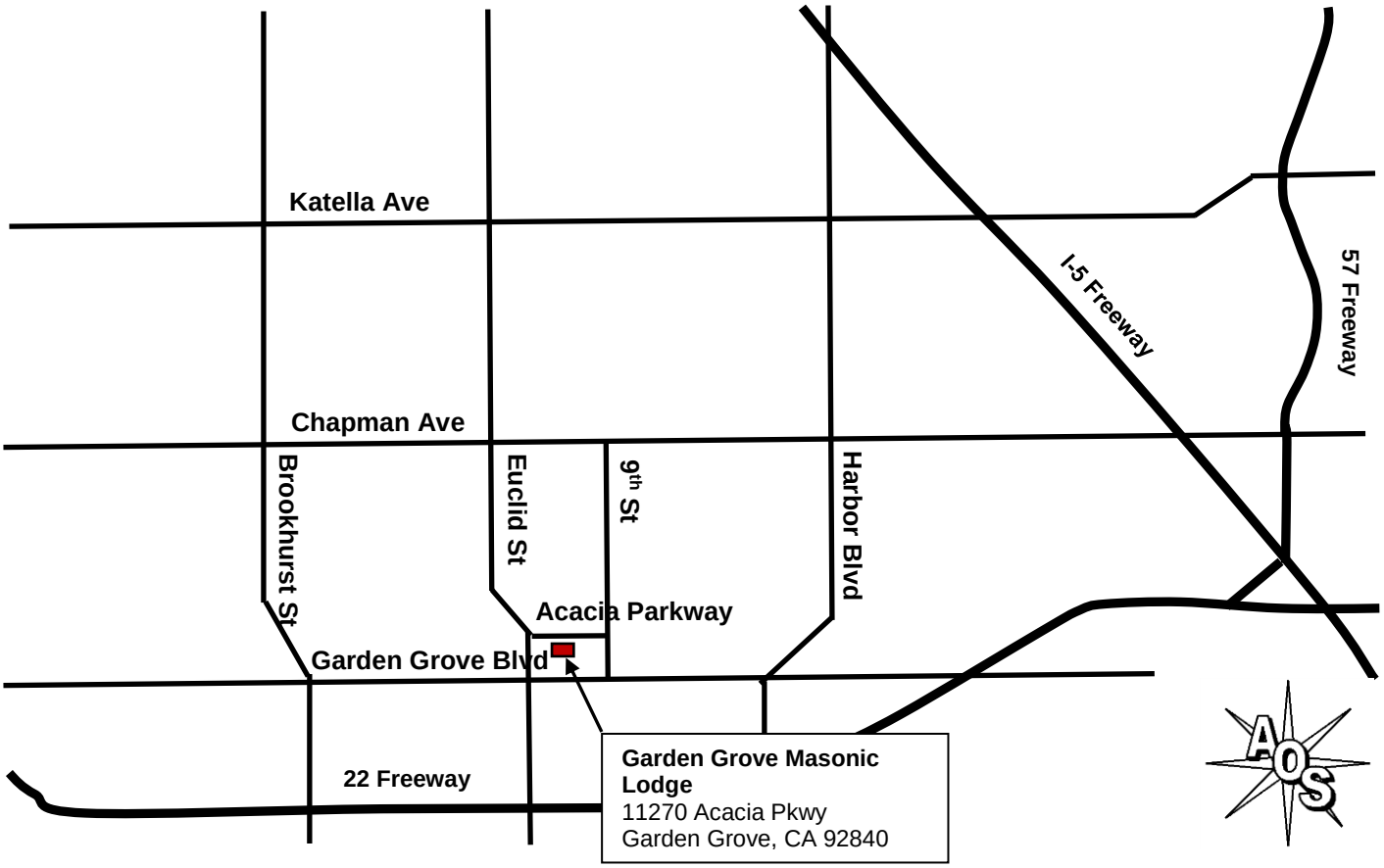
— *GENERAL MEETINGS* —
4th Wednesday of the Month
7:00 pm - 9:30 PM

Garden Grove Masonic Lodge
11270 Acacia Pkwy
Garden Grove, CA 92840

MEETING ACTIVITIES
Opal Cutting, Advice, Guest Speakers, Slide Shows, Videos, Other Activities

Volume #49 Issue #9
September 2016

TO:



Some Topics In This Issue:

- **Opal Show News**
- **Opal & Gem Show Dealers**
- **$100 Million Pearl Was Kept Under a Bed**
- **Big Opal Finds Prove Elusive in Australia**
- **Prospector Finds Steak-Sized Gold Nugget**
- **From Rags to Riches Ch. 60:The Share Cut**
- **Antarctic Meteorite Found Containing Opal**

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