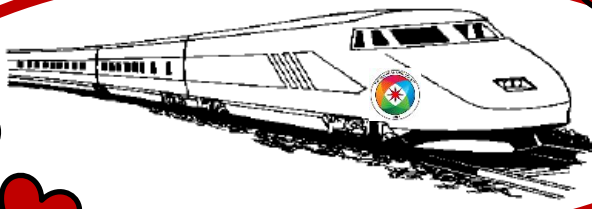


# The Opal Express

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## Table of Contents

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| President's Message             | 1 |
| Buying Opal on the Internet     | 1 |
| Dues Notice to All Members      | 1 |
| Members Only Website Password   | 1 |
| Art Crawl Date Correction       | 1 |
| The Quartzsite Report           | 2 |
| Welcome                         | 3 |
| The Allure of Diamonds          | 3 |
| Bench Tips - Cuttlebone Casting | 4 |
| The Imperial Opal               | 5 |
| Australian Opals - A Primer     | 6 |
| CFMS Show Dates                 | 7 |

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## President's Message

Happy Valentine's Day Opalholics! 

I just returned from a busy week in Quartzsite (see my report on page 2). I hope some of you were able to attend the show. Shout out to Armando Pedroza, Nancy Bird, Bill, Fran Todd and Dottie who stopped by our booth to visit - it was great to see all of you!

We are always looking for ways to make our annual opal show better. If you have an idea, let us know. We also need volunteers for the opal show and other events we support throughout the year. If you'd like to help, or if you know of a dealer who is a good fit for our show, be sure to let us know!

Stan McCall  
AOS President  
Custom Creative Gem Cutting



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Member area access is available only to members in good standing. Any other entry is unauthorized.

USER NAME: member  
PASSWORD: opalBBQ (case sensitive)

## "Buying Opal on the Internet"

Our speaker for the February General Meeting is Pete Goetz.

Pete will talk about the ins and outs of navigating the internet, including finding a source, developing a relationship sellers and guarding against purchasing errors.

## DUES NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

The AOS membership and dues clock has restarted, effective January 1, 2020.

With the January newsletter, each member will be provided their revised dues renewal date which will take into account the interim period, suspension of dues since October 1, 2018. Members who have paid dues during the interim period will be credited with a full year effective January 1, plus any months from the prior period.

The Opal Society appreciates the patience and cooperation of everyone during this time.

Stan McCall  
AOS President

## ART CRAWL DATA CORRECTION !

We received new information regarding the Art Crawl date. The event was modified by the Event Managers. The new Art Crawl date is May 9th. There is no Art Crawl in February.

The Opal Society will be at the Anaheim Art Crawl on Saturday, May 9th. Stop by our booth in front of the Good Food restaurant and show your support for our club! Members will have opals and jewelry for sale. Russ Madsen will be manning his famous ponking table looking for opal in basalt rock. Come and see if he finds a keeper! This free event starts at 6 p.m. and ends at 10 p.m., and is located at 201 W. Center Promenade in Anaheim. Hope to see you there!

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# The Quartzsite Report

## by Stan McCall



The Quartzsite Roadrunners Gem & Mineral Club



Indoor gem and mineral dealers

If you didn't make it to the Pow Wow Gem & Mineral show in Quartzsite this year (January 15-19), you missed a really good show.

The weather was great – no rain! It was cold and at times, a little windy, but it was sunny everyday and very enjoyable.

The first day was busy with lots of visitors, and many people brought man's best friend with them. It's always fun to watch the different dogs that come through the show.

There were tons of beautiful slabs and rough for those who like to do their own lapidary. For those who like to make jewelry and do beadwork, there were plenty of beautiful strands of beads and cabochons to choose from.

And there were plenty of dealers selling all kinds of tools - everything from small jewelry tools to flat lap grinders.

I shared the booth with our editor, Kathleen James (Kathleen James Studios), and we both did very well at this year's show.

Next year if you get a chance, come on out to Quartzsite - you'll be glad you did!



My booth at Pow Wow



Kathleen's booth at Pow Wow

\*\*\*\*\*



*A warm AOS welcome to the following new members!*

*Leroy Fowler*

*Joel Johnson*

*Deanna Nim*

*Michelle O'Haren*

*Jeffrey Schleher*

*Chris Wentzel*

*David Yturralde*

*And thank you to all renewing members. We greatly appreciate your support!*

The Whittier Gem and Mineral Society will have Renee Newman as their speaker this month. Her topic is diamonds. If you would like to know more about this fascinating gemstone, don't miss her lecture.

*The Editor*

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WGMS General Meeting

Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM

At the Whittier Senior Center

13225 Walnut Street, Whittier, CA

**"The Allure of Diamonds"**

Compared to many other gemstones, diamonds are relatively abundant, yet they have attained higher prices at auction than any other gem. Gemologist Renee Newman will explain why in her talk to our club on February 27<sup>th</sup>. It will include photos and information on:

- The highest priced diamonds sold at auction
- Three of the oldest and most famous diamonds
- Current geographic sources of diamonds
- Reasons why diamonds are so highly valued
- Lab-grown diamonds and some ways to detect them
- Diamond imitations and some ways to detect them
- Diamond treatments
- Why the 4 Cs is no longer an adequate pricing system for diamonds

Speaker Bio:

Renee Newman developed her interest in gems in the early 1980s while conducting tours to Asia, South America and the South Pacific. Her passengers wanted to know how to judge the quality of the gems they saw. After search in bookstores and libraries for this information, Renee discovered that little had been written on the subject of gem quality evaluation so she decided it would be worth creating books with photos that showed how to judge gem quality.

Ms. Newman received her graduate gemologist diploma from GIA and was hired as a gemologist at a diamond wholesale firm in Los Angeles.

A new 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the Diamond Ring Buying Guide will be released in February. Renee will be available before and after her presentation to autograph books. Bring cash or a check if you would like to purchase copies of them. For more information about Renee and her books, go to: [www.reneenewman.com](http://www.reneenewman.com)

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# ~ Bench Tips ~

This page will be dedicated to bench tips and techniques from our readers. If you have bench tips you'd like to share, let us know! Bench tips can be anything - metal work, lapidary, wirework - anything creative that you would like to share. Send your tips to: [aos.editor.02@gmail.com](mailto:aos.editor.02@gmail.com)

## Cuttlebone Casting

*by Karen J. Lauseng*

Cuttlebone casting is both spontaneous and easy. No casting kiln required and it can be done at our workshop or at home. Give it a try or talk with Drew Wilson about hosting a workshop for this fun process. There are many ways to create a mold, but the direct method of carving directly into the bone is a simple, low tech process. You'll be able complete a cast in less than an hour and have a unique element to inspire your next design. Large cuttlebones can be purchased from jewelry suppliers, small from pet stores. One supplier of large cuttlebone is Bracken Bird farm (bring the children to feed the birds and farm animals) 10797 New Jersey St. Redlands, (909) 792-5735

**Materials:** Cuttlefish bone, sterling silver scraps, powdered casting flux, concrete block, carving and marking tools (pencil, dental tools, paint can opener, awl, square tubing, round tubing, etc.), wire cutters, soft brush, masking tape, acetylene torch with a large and medium tip, fireproof surface with adequate ventilation, fireproof brick, respirator mask, crucible.

To prepare mold for casting, divide cuttlefish bone in half in a straight line with awl. Determine centerline and score. Make several passes into line with awl until groove cuts completely through soft side of bone and you can feel scraping against hard shell. Next, break shell by snapping along score line; should break evenly in two.

Rub each half with soft surface down on smooth sand paper. Hold bone firmly and apply a light, even pressure as you rub. Continue to remove material until each half has flat, smooth plane. If outer shell begins to scrape on concrete, carefully clip that area of shell with small wire cutter.

After carving is complete, use soft brush to remove dust and loose material. For a well-defined casting, firmly brush both sides of mold to ensure it is clean and dust-free. Hold both sections of cuttlefish mold together and firmly secure halves with masking tape. Make sure tape tightly holds bones together with no gaps or spaces where molten metal could escape. Secure mold firmly in a place where it will not tip. Whatever holding method you choose must be secure, fireproof, and placed on a fireproof surface. Proper ventilation is essential. A coffee can filled with sand works best for many.



Preheat the crucible until a slight glow appears and carefully add metal. Try using scrap sterling leftovers from other projects. If you don't have any scraps, you can purchase casting grain from a jewelry supply company. Once metal is molten, add a small amount of flux with steel tool. For a small casting, less than 1.8 teaspoon is sufficient. Flux helps keep metal clean and aids flow as it is poured into mold. Ensure that the pouring edge of crucible is red hot, so metal doesn't cool before entering mold. Pour molten metal into mold, being very careful not to get fire too close to casting. Be sure to keep torch aimed at crucible until all metal has been poured. The smell will be quite unpleasant and you will be thankful for proper ventilation.

When cool, remove masking tape from piece to reveal casting. Dispose of mold and clean silver with dishwashing detergent and a brass brush. The final casting is now ready to be used in your jewelry design.

For photos and step-by-step details, view Cuttlebone Casting by Karen J. Lauseng at

<http://www.jewelryartistmagazine.com/projects/cuttlebone-casting>

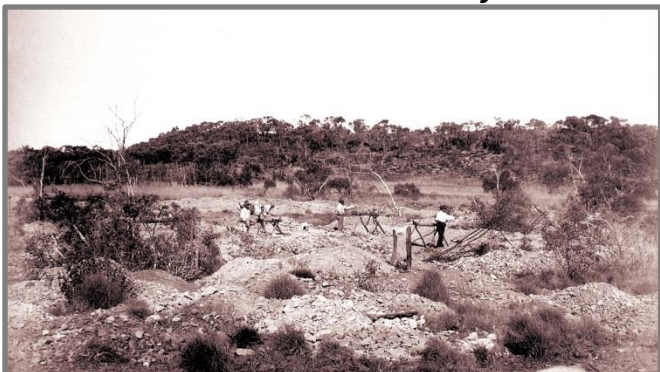
*From The Newsletter Of The Pasadena Lapidary Society*

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# Famous Gems

## The Imperial Opal

by Len Cram



**Working a small section of old ground at Opaltown in 1906**

Opalton has produced some of the geological wonders of the world, and the "Imperial Opal" is no exception. Valued at £50,000 in 1901, an incredible amount, it weighed 250 carats. An astonishing piece of crystal opal, it was found in 1895 during the height of production and bought by Maurice Lyons, a leading Brisbane lawyer, also an entrepreneur heavily involved in land and mining ventures.

The only description we have of the gem is from the London Times of 9 March 1901, written after their reporter was invited to a special viewing:

*"It was not the best sort of day on which to inspect such a magnificent jewel, the atmosphere being overcast and dull. Only the opal when taken out of its box and wrappings seemed to light up the room. Those present looked at it with a certain awesome joy, and handled it in the same spirit. "How beautiful! How splendid!" said the ladies. Sir Horace Tozer said, of all the Queensland opals he had seen, this one was the finest."*

*"The gem has been cut into an irregular shape pending the ultimate decision as to the purpose for which it will be used. In its present shape it is two and half inches long and one and half in depth weighing 250 carats. It is not its size that is considered so remarkable, but its quality, its brilliance almost approaches that of the*

*diamond and has all the colours of the ruby, emerald and amethyst, which are clearly marked in a beautiful harlequin pattern. It was broken in two during mining, the smaller piece, less than half the size of The Imperial Opal, is also an extraordinary gem. The stone comes from Opalton, in the western district of Queensland, and was discovered six years ago."*

During a conversation while showing Sir James Dickson the gem in 1899, Lyons told him it was his intention to present the gem to Queen Victoria at the opening of the first Commonwealth Parliament. As there were no Australian gems in the Crown Jewels he believed it would be a fitting representation of the new Commonwealth of Australia. Sir William George Herbert, another of his friends, named the stone, The Imperial Opal, after learning of his intentions.

In preparation to carrying out his plan, Lyons had the gem deposited in a London bank, with the intention that the Queen should have the first inspection, knowing her preference for opals. Unfortunately, due to her death, she never saw the gem, but Lyons, still wanting to present the gem to the Crown, offered the stone to King Edward. The London Daily Chronicle commented on his gesture in March 1901:

*"Mr Maurice Lyons, of Queensland, is desirous of presenting to King Edward The Imperial Opal for inclusion in the Crown Regalia. His Majesty has not yet seen this magnificent jewel, but we believe that he has indicated his views on the matter, and takes the position that so valuable a gem could not be accepted as a gift from any individual subject to the crown. It is Mr Lyons' desire that The Imperial Opal should represent the Australian Commonwealth in the Crown Jewels."*



**Len Cram, Opalton, July 9, 2009**

Unfortunately, I have not been able shed any light on what might have happened to this incredible opal. I would appreciate it should any reader know its whereabouts or even a smidgen of its lost history.



**Len Cram on the field in 1996**

**Printed with permission from Len Cram and prepared especially for the American Opal Society**

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**Australian Opals - A Primer**  
*by Gary Hocking*

What has attracted people to opals over the centuries? Colour, colour and more colour! Opals change colour when you look at them from different sides and angles. Sometimes there is little colour at all and you move your head and suddenly a breathtaking burst of brilliant colour flashes from the stone. There are very few natural gemstones which do that.

Unless you are lucky the more you pay the better the quality is. But you can still get the high flashy colours for a lower price if you buy doublets or triplets. These are opal pieces reinforced with a solid backing of colorless opal. A triplet has a clear dome of quartz or other material on top.

Opal starts off as a silica gel which seeps through sedimentary strata and gradually hardens over millions of years and the process of nature. As an opal miner I have occasionally seen opal in this early stage where it is soft. Opals contain a lot of water as much as between 3 and 10 percent. On the Mohs scale of hardness it comes in around 5.5 to 6.5 and that is relatively soft.

Australian opals are classified in several groups:

- Black opals which come from the Lightning Ridge area in NSW.
- White opals and light opals which come from the Coober Pedy region in South Australia.

These types also come from notable areas such as Mintabie and Andamooka. Boulder opals come from Queensland.

Then there are some other minor areas which produce smaller amounts of high quality opal.

Black opals have a dark base and white opals have a white base whereas Boulder has opal which is on top of or through an ironstone base.

Then you get various levels of blackness you might say. So you might get an opal from either Lightning Ridge or Coober Pedy which has a grey base. That means that the stone has flashes of perhaps bright red and blue or other colours mixed inside of a grey base colour. This grey base might be light grey or almost black. When it reaches a very dark colour we normally call that a black opal. It is like some children's' marbles that you see.

Then we have Crystal opal. Crystal is transparent but the colours can leap out at you from this clear, see through base. We also have varying degrees of crystal opal. When we cannot see clearly through the crystal then we would classify it as semi crystal.

What does it cost? It is very difficult to say what opal is worth. We can weigh it and measure it but that doesn't help until we can establish the quality. We look for the best pattern in the opal, the brightest colour and the most vibrant colour. Red is generally the most expensive colour. However, a small bight, vibrant green stone will command much more than a larger dark and dull red stone. Since every opal is so different to the next it is very much a personal opinion. Of course, people with experience will easily point out the major characteristics of a good or not so good opal.

From:  
[http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Gary\\_Hocking](http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Gary_Hocking)

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

Reader: If your organization has an opal or rockhound-related event, please email particulars to [info@opalsociety.org](mailto:info@opalsociety.org). Upcoming Event listings will be included at the discretion of Opal Express editor as space and scheduling permit.

February 14-23; INDIO, CA  
San Geronio Gem & Mineral Society  
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival  
82-503 Hwy 111  
Hours: 10-10 Daily  
Contact: Bert Grisham; 951-849-1674  
Email: bert67@verizon.net

February 15 - 16: ANTIOCH, CA  
Antioch Lapidary Club  
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds  
1201 W 10th St, Antioch, CA 94509  
Hours: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Contact: Brenda Miguel  
Email: [brenda.miguel@yahoo.com](mailto:brenda.miguel@yahoo.com)  
Website: [antiochlapidaryclub.com](http://antiochlapidaryclub.com)

February 22-23: VALLEJO, CA  
Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society  
Spring Bling Gem Mineral & Jewelry Show  
Solano County Fairgrounds McCormack Hall  
900 Fairgrounds Dr., Vallejo, CA 94589  
Hours: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Contact: Debra Duhon; 415-254-1506  
Email: [dduhonvvgms@gmail.com](mailto:dduhonvvgms@gmail.com)  
Website: <http://vjgems.co/>

March 6-8; NEWARK, CA  
Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley  
Newark Pavilion  
6430 Thornton Ave  
Hours: Fr 10-4, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5  
Contact: Cathy Miller, 510-305-4196  
Email: [cdmiller59@gmail.com](mailto:cdmiller59@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.mgscv.org](http://www.mgscv.org)

March 7 - 8: VENTURA  
Ventura Gem & Mineral Society  
58<sup>th</sup> Annual VGMS Gem & Mineral Show  
Ventura County Fairgrounds  
10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001  
Hours: Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Contact: Richard Skyler; 805-312-8467  
Email: [info@vgms.com](mailto:info@vgms.com)  
Website: <http://vgms.org/>

March 13-15: VICTORVILLE, CA  
Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club  
44th Annual Rockhound Tailgate  
Stoddard Wells Rd/Dale Evans Pkwy  
Hours: 9-5 Daily  
Contact: Ruben Martinez; 760-490-8263  
Email: [rmstonewalk54@gmail.com](mailto:rmstonewalk54@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.vvgmc.org](http://www.vvgmc.org)

March 14 - 15: TURLOCK, CA  
Mother Lode Mineral Society of California  
Gem, Jewelry and Rock Show  
Stanislaus Fairgrounds  
900 N Broadway, Turlock, CA  
Hours: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Contact: Bud & Terry McMillin; 209-524-3494  
Email: [bud.mcmillin.b7yj@statefarm.com](mailto:bud.mcmillin.b7yj@statefarm.com)  
Website: <http://turlockgemshow.com/>  
<http://www.motherlodemineralsociety.com>

March 21: FALLBROOK, CA  
Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society  
Rough N' Cut  
123 W Alvarado St, Fallbrook, CA  
Hours: 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Contact: (760) 728 - 1130  
Email: [info@fgms.org](mailto:info@fgms.org)  
Website: <https://fallbrookgemandmineralsociety.wildapricot.org/>

March 21 - 22: SAN JOSE, CA  
Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society  
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds  
344 Tully Rd, San Jose, CA 95111  
Hours: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Contact: (408) 265-1422  
Email: [info@scvgms.org](mailto:info@scvgms.org)  
Website: [www.scvgms.org](http://www.scvgms.org)

March 28-29; ANGELS CAMP, CA  
Calaveras Gem and Mineral Society  
Calaveras County Fairgrounds  
101 Frogtown Rd, Angels Camp, CA 95222  
Hours: Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Contact: Robin Williams; 209-728-8277  
Email: [robinski@yahoo.com](mailto:robinski@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.calaverasgemandmineral.org](http://www.calaverasgemandmineral.org)

March 28-29; ROSEVILLE, CA  
Roseville Rock Rollers  
@the Grounds  
700 Event Center Dr, Roseville, CA 95678  
Hours: Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Contact: James Hutchins; 916-995-7380  
Email: [jhutchings22@hotmail.com](mailto:jhutchings22@hotmail.com)  
Website: [www.rockrollers.com](http://www.rockrollers.com)

April 3 - 4 - 5: VISTA, CA  
Vista Gem and Mineral Society  
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum  
2040 N. Santa Fe Ave., Vista, CA 92083  
Hours: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Contact:  
Email:  
Website: <http://www.vistarocks.org/>

April 4-5; CHICO, CA  
Paradise Gem & Mineral Club  
Silver Dollar Fair Grounds  
2357 Fair St, Chico, CA 95928  
Hours: Saturday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Sunday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Contact: Trish Haggerty; 530-966-5112  
Email: [hagboyz5@gmail.com](mailto:hagboyz5@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.paradisegem.org](http://www.paradisegem.org)

April 4-5; RENO, NV  
The Reno Gem & Mineral Society, Inc  
Reno Convention Center  
4390 S Virginia St.  
Hours: Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Contact: Daniel Ellis; 775-229-2442  
Email: [greybeard65@hotmail.com](mailto:greybeard65@hotmail.com)  
Website: [www.renorockhounds.com](http://www.renorockhounds.com)

April 5 - 12: BAKER, CA  
CFMS Earth Science Seminars  
Camp Zzyzx  
Zzyzx Rd, Baker, CA 92309  
Hours: 8:00AM to 5:00PM  
Contact:  
Email:  
Website: <https://www.cfmsinc.org/>  
Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/EarthScienceStudies/>

April 11 - 12: MARIPOSA, CA  
Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club  
Mariposa County Fairgrounds  
5007 Fairgrounds Road  
Hours: Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Contact: Meredith Meehan; 559-868-3535  
Email: [mgmc@sti.net](mailto:mgmc@sti.net)  
Web Site: <http://mariposagemclub.org>

April 18 - 19: PASO ROBLES, CA  
Santa Lucia Rockhounds  
Amazing Agates  
Paso Robles Event Center  
2198 Riverside Ave, Paso Robles, CA  
Hours: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Contact: Kim Noyes; 805-610-0603  
Email: [slrockhounds@gmail.com](mailto:slrockhounds@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.slrockhounds.org/show](http://www.slrockhounds.org/show)

April 25 - 26: LANCASTER, CA  
Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club  
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds  
2551 W Avenue H, Lancaster, CA 93536  
Hours: Saturday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Sunday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Contact: Susan Chaisson-Walblom; 661-406-0143  
Email: slchaisson@yahoo.com  
Website: avgem@weebly.com

April 25 - 26: ARCADIA, CA  
Pasadena Lapidary Society  
Inspiration Unearthed - Tournament of Gems  
Arcadia Masonic Center  
50 W. Duarte Rd, Arcadia, CA 91007  
Hours: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Contact: Ellen Ferrell; 727-512-0381  
Email: ellenbf2007@aol.com  
Website: <http://pasadenalapidary.org/>

May 2 - 3: ANAHEIM, CA  
Searchers Gem and Mineral Society  
Searchers Annual Show  
Brookhurst Community Center  
2271 W Crescent Ave, Anaheim, CA  
Hours: Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM  
Contact:  
Email:  
Website:  
<https://www.searchersrocks.org/>

May 9: ANAHEIM, CA  
A.C.E. (Art Crawl Experience)  
AOS Booth in front of Good Food Restaurant  
205 W. Center St. Promenade, Anaheim,  
California 92805  
Hours: 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

May 2 - 3: JACKSON, CA  
Amador County Gem & Mineral Society  
Kennedy Mine  
Off Hwy 49-88  
12594 Kennedy Mine Rd, Jackson CA 95642  
Hours: 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Contact: Cheryl Smith; 209-296-4061  
Email: mountaingirl@volcano.net  
Website: [amadorgemmandmineral.org](http://amadorgemmandmineral.org)

June 1 - 2: CAMBRIA, CA  
San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club  
Cambria Veterans Hall  
1000 Main St, Cambria, CA 93428  
Hours: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Contact: Kim Noyes; 805-610-0603  
Email: kim@gmail.com  
Website:

June 23 - 28: LODI, CA  
81st CFMS SHOW & CONVENTION  
California Federation of Mineralogical  
Societies  
Grape Festival Fairgrounds  
413 E Lockeford St, Lodi, CA 95240  
Hours:  
Contact:  
Email:  
Website:

September 26-27: LANCASTER, CA  
Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club  
Rock & Gem Roundup  
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds  
Van Dam Pavilion  
2551 W Avenue H, Lancaster, CA 93536  
Hours: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Contact: Allison McClung; 661-839-7403  
Email: ali\_cares@aol.com  
Website:  
<http://palmdalegemandmineral.org/>

September 26 - 27: LODI, CA  
Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club  
Earth Treasures Gems Minerals & Jewelry  
Show  
Lodi Grape Festival Grounds  
413 E. Lockeford St., Lodi, CA 95240  
Hours: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Contact:  
Email:  
Website: <https://stocktonlapidary.org/>

October 10 - 11: LOS ALTOS, CA  
Peninsula Gem & Geology Society, Inc.  
Recreation With Rocks  
Los Altos Youth Center  
1 North San Antonio Rd., Los Altos, CA  
94022  
Hours: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Contact:  
Email:  
Website: <https://pggs.org/>

October 17 - 18: SANTA ROSA, CA  
Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society  
Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building  
1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
Hours: Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM  
Sunday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Contact:  
Email:  
Website: <http://www.srmgs.org/>

October 31 - Nov 1: SACRAMENTO, CA  
Sacramento Mineral Society  
84<sup>th</sup> Annual Sacramento Gem,  
Mineral and Jewelry Show  
The Scottish Rite Temple  
6151 H St., Sacramento, CA  
Hours: Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Contact: Alyssa Meiszingler; 916-662-5819  
Email:  
[gemshow@sacramentomineralsociety.org](mailto:gemshow@sacramentomineralsociety.org)  
Website:  
<http://www.sacramentomineralsociety.org/>

November 21 - 22: ANAHEIM, CA  
American Opal Society, Inc.  
53rd Annual Opal Gem & Jewelry Show  
Business Expo Center  
1960 S. Anaheim Way, Anaheim, CA 92805  
Hours: Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM  
Sunday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Contact: Veronica Purpura; 714-501-9959  
Email: [info@opalsociety.org](mailto:info@opalsociety.org)  
Website: <http://opalsociety.org>

# American Opal Society Membership Application

| FILL IN APPLICABLE INFORMATION                                                  |                  | DUES / FEES | AMOUNT PAID |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| DUES:                                                                           | RENEWING MEMBERS | \$35.00     |             |
| SELECT ONE                                                                      | NEW MEMBERS      | \$45.00     |             |
| INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP FEE (All addresses <u>outside</u> of USA)              |                  | \$15.00     |             |
| PRINTED NEWSLETTER FEE (Paper copy postal mailed instead of PDF file by e-mail) |                  | \$10.00     |             |
| ADDITIONAL BADGES (Your first badge is <u>free</u> when joining)                |                  | \$15.00     |             |
| TOTAL PAID DUES plus International, Print or Badge Fees if Applicable:          |                  |             |             |

Please make check or money order payable to "American Opal Society". Mail payment and application to:

American Opal Society: PO Box 4875, Garden Grove, CA 92842-4875

An optional quicker method of payment is via the internet. To pay via PayPal, please visit the membership page on our website at [http://opalsociety.org/aos\\_application\\_by\\_web.htm](http://opalsociety.org/aos_application_by_web.htm) to complete the form and make your PayPal payment. You may pay with a credit card or via PayPal account. The transaction is completely secure and the AOS never sees your credit card number. The AOS PayPal account is [membership@opalsociety.org](mailto:membership@opalsociety.org).

|                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| NAME                |                          |
| BUSINESS NAME       |                          |
| ADDRESS             | APT # or PO BOX          |
| CITY                | STATE                    |
| ZIP OR POSTAL CODE  | COUNTRY (IF OUTSIDE USA) |
| PHONE - Home (    ) | PHONE - Business (    )  |
| E-MAIL              |                          |
| WEBSITE             |                          |
| OCCUPATION          | HOBBIES and INTERESTS    |

## NAME BADGE ORDER FORM:

PLEASE PRINT NAME AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR ON YOUR BADGE using up to two (2) lines of text for your name, nickname, or name of your opal related business.

**MEMBERSHIP ROSTER:** The AOS publishes a membership roster once per year in its newsletter, The Opal Express. Your name will be included. Please check what additional personal information you listed for other members. If it is different from the information above, please note that on the application.

☐ Address    ☐ Phone-landline    ☐ Phone-cell    ☐ E-mail    ☐ Website

Please sign here: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Are Your Dues Due Now?

PLEASE CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL OR NEWSLETTER E-MAIL.

There will 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 Renewal Grace Period of two months will be provided. Please note, that as the system is 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

(revised 11/27/19)

# The Opal Express

American Opal Society  
P.O. Box 4875  
Garden Grove, CA 92842-4875

Volume 53, Issue 2

## — GENERAL MEETINGS —

4th Wednesday of the Month  
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Anaheim Community Center  
250 E. Center Street  
Anaheim, CA 92805

**THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING**  
**Wednesday, February 26th**

TO:



General Meeting Location at:

**Anaheim Downtown Community Center**

250 E. Center Street  
Anaheim, CA 92805

**There is no Board Meeting for the month of February.**

Please join us at the next **General Meeting, Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>** at the Anaheim Community Center at **7:00 p.m.** **Pete Goetz will be our speaker. His topic is "Buying Opal on the Internet".** Refreshments will be served - hope to see you there!

## American Opal Society

Website: <http://OpalSociety.org>  
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/opalsociety>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanOpalSociety>  
Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/opalsociety>  
YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCegTIH1IEyO7y8wdqvRfyUA?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCegTIH1IEyO7y8wdqvRfyUA?view_as=subscriber)

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