Official Publication of the West Suburban Lapidary Club
Elmhurst, Illinois

Volume XXXXVII
No. 2
February 2008

NEXT CLUB MEETING
February 22, 2008 - 8 pm
(doors open at 7:00)

THE ABBEY
407 W. St Charles Rd
Elmhurst, IL  60126

Members of:
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological
Societies
Chicagoland Gem and Mineral Association
Scribe

West Suburban Lapidary Club
Mary Prosek, Opal Editor
PO Box 783 - Lyons, IL  60534

First Class
Dated Material

THE OPAL
WEST SUBURBAN LAPIIDARY CLUB
A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION INCORPORATED IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

Mission Statement:
To foster the development of the lapidary arts and the jewelry craftsman's and to increase public interest in handcrafted gems, jewelry, and their materials

Regular meetings of the West Suburban Lapidary Club are held on the fourth Friday of the month at 8 p.m. with the exception of June, July, August & December at The Abbey, 407 W. St. Charles Road, Elmhurst, Illinois. Parking in the East and West parking lots. Visitors are welcome. Board meetings are held as announced in The OPAL. Annual membership dues are $17 per household/family. Dues are due January 1, delinquent January 31.

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS - 2008

President: Ed Gallagher
Vice-President: Karen Dave
Treasurer: Jose Ponce
Secretary: Barb Freeman
OPAL Editor: Mary Prosek
MWF Liaison: Terry Licko
Board Member (3rd of 3 year term) Susan Wilson & Joanne Samuel
Board Member (2nd of 3 year term): Lee Herrera
Board Member (1st of 3 year term): Barb Petry
Past President: Don Shore

Committee Chairpersons

Hospitality:
The OPAL: Mary Prosek
Librarian: Gwyn Roland
Activities Coordinator: Karen Dave
MWF Liaison: Terry Licko
Lizzadro Museum Liaison: Jack Maher

Silent Auction/Club Show:
Field Trip: to be announced
Lapidary School: Karen Dave
Instructors: Lyle Backus, Tony Gass, Max Schultz
Assistants: Lucy Backus, Jose Ponce, Mary Prosek, Alberta Schultz

The OPAL is the official publication of the West Suburban Lapidary Club and is issued September through May with the exception of December. It is mailed, one copy per household, without further charge to members of the WSLC. Email in addition to or in place of mail is also available by contacting the Editor. Articles may be copied provided full credit is given to the author and this bulletin. The deadline for material to be published is the fourth Friday of the month prior. Visit the WSLC website at: www.westsuburbanlapidaryclub.com
FEBRUARY PROGRAM

by Erik Spande

The program for February will be a film called “Black Opal, The Video” by Greg Pardey. The film will cover mining in Lightning Ridge as well as the various aspects of orienting, doping, cutting, polishing and handling Opal.

STONE-OF-THE-MONTH

The stone-of-the-month for February is Topaz. Topaz occurs in a wide range of colors including red, orange, peach, pink, gold, yellow, brown and clear and is found in Brazil, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Russia. Naturally pale to medium blue topaz is enhanced by irradiation to produce a more intense blue color.

Please check out the great story on Topaz submitted by Erik Spande. Be sure to wear your jewelry pieces or bring in your rough or specimens for others to enjoy. Make sure you mark or label any item you bring in as the WSLC is not responsible for personal property.

TEAM ASSIGNMENTS

Team Duties: Our programs are a team effort. We depend on and need each other’s help to make them work. Each month’s team, as listed below, is responsible for the meeting set-up, program, refreshments, and take-down. Out-of-state and honorary members are requested to contribute to any team.

Meeting Set-Up/Take-Down: The team members should arrive early on their program day to help set-up the chairs and tables. They also need to remain after the meeting to clean up and put everything away.

Program: Each team should meet during the two club meetings prior to their program date and plan a program. A team leader will be elected to chair the team meetings during which everyone on the team will contribute ideas for a program. The team leader is not expected to do the program; only coordinate it. The Vice-President will meet with the team and help if required. If the team is unable to formulate a program, the Vice-President should be consulted as soon as possible.

Refreshments: The refreshments will be discussed at the team meeting and each team member will contribute an item. Any team member who cannot attend the team’s program should arrange to send a refreshment or donation of money (that will be used to purchase an item). All team members should lend a hand in the kitchen. Serving dishes and utensils will be provided by the team members.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>February:</th>
<th>Koko, Pat</th>
<th>Sobczak, Bernie &amp; Irene</th>
<th>Walter, George</th>
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<td>Abrell, Gary &amp; Lorel</td>
<td>Norton, Betty</td>
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<td>Keck, Lil</td>
<td>Schultz, Max &amp; Alberta</td>
<td>Ugorek, Sabrina</td>
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<th>Muskus, Meryl</th>
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<td>Backus, Lyle &amp; Lucy</td>
<td>Herrera, Lee</td>
<td>Pavesich, Paul &amp; Ruth</td>
<td>Thode, Kris</td>
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<td>Gadeke, Russ &amp; Marion</td>
<td>Maple, Jim &amp; Marion</td>
<td>Petry, Leroy &amp; Barb</td>
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WSLC MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership in the WSLC is $17 per year, per household/family. Student memberships are available for $10. Students are identified as 22 years of age and younger and currently enrolled in an accredited school and have a valid school I.D. Dues are payable by January 31st for that calendar year regardless of the date you joined. Please submit a completed application for Board Approval to the WSLC Treasurer, Barbara Petry. This is to be done at any General Meeting. Applications will not be accepted via mail or at a WSLC function other than a meeting. Visitors are welcome at all General Meetings. Members of the WSLC are expected to serve on various committee’s and volunteer their time where needed. Applications may be found on the website at: www.westsuburbanlapidary.com

Members of the WSLC receive in district rates with the Elmhurst Park District for classes taken at the Lapidary School, regardless of their residence. Contact information for all Board Members are located on page 2 of The Opal
EDITOR'S NOTES
by Mary Prosek

I would like to extend a big THANK YOU to both Erik Spande and Lynn Dempsey for their wonderful contributions to The Opal this month.

Erik provided an excellent article on the stone-of-the-month, Topaz. Lynn gave a fantastic account of her trip to Kenya from last year, along with pictures.

Their time and effort is most appreciated. I am always open to stories or articles of interest from members. It can be a story about a recent class you took or a place you visited that others in the club might be interested in.

One doesn’t need to be a professional writer. Take it from one who knows. I marvel and am eternally grateful for spell check and scanners and the internet. Without these tools, it would be more time consuming to get The Opal out each month. I was going through the Peterson Projects (see page 9) and came across pages from The Opal from the 70’s that were all hand typed. I cringe just thinking of having to do that chore and deal with a typewriter. When I joined the work force, electric typewriters were the standard. I couldn’t even imagine having to deal with a manual one if I had to. We’ve certainly come a long way.

So don’t be shy, submit your articles!

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 11, 2008
BOARD MEETING
by Barbara Freeman

Members present: Ed Gallagher, Mary Prosek, Jose Ponce, Susan Wilson, Don Shore, Joanne Samuel, Barb Petry, Barb Freeman, Lee Herrera and Karen Dave’.

The meeting was called to order at 7:50 at the lapidary school.

Board members were thanked by the President for their ongoing support and involvement in the smooth functioning of the club.

Treasurer’s report : Presented by Barb Petry. The financial documents, with instructions, were handed over to the new treasurer, Jose Ponce. Everyone thanked Barb for keeping meticulous records while she was Treasurer. The 2006 financial audit was completed and plans are in progress for the 2007 financial audit as required by the by-laws.

Opal editor: The Opal is forwarded to several other clubs, to promote sharing of ideas via mail & email.

Webmaster: Website continues in service and is updated on a regular basis.

Previous Business: The December Holiday meeting and luncheon was a festive gathering with lots of cheerful members and guests. The flowers, favors, and food were excellent. The same venue is reserved for December 7th, 2008 so mark your calendars early. Program discussion ensued for the January meeting. The silent mini-auctions will continue. These auctions help divest club and member’s inventory as well as provide revenue for the club. Barb Petry volunteered to coordinate “Split the Pot” activities. Thanks Barb for volunteering. Club “Bucks”: Ed Gallagher will design and develop guidelines for earning and using the newly instituted club bucks.

Community involvement: It is expected the club will continue with Kids Art Camp, Art in the Park, and demonstrations with the Lizzadro Museum. Volunteers are needed. These events publicize our club, help meet our mission statement, and provide token revenue.

New Business: The Midwest Faceters Guild plans to relocate their annual seminar to Elmhurst in August 2008. It was previously held in Flint, MI. Information will be shared as it becomes available. The WSLC Silent Auction held in October was very successful in organization and income. There was a major contribution of time, effort, and expertise for months previous to the event to prepare the equipment and items. Discussion was held about other ways to provide increased revenue for the club, without a daylong event. Suggestions included: possible ongoing advertisement of available items to club members, eventual listing of items on an on-line auction, obtain a booth at local craft/art fairs to sell items and publicize our club at the same time.

Next Board meeting: February 1, 2008. Agenda topics include review and possible revision of the 2004 Bylaws and reinstitution of a welcome new member packet of information.

Adjourn: the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:10 PM.

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE 2008

Members are welcome to attend. The schedule for 2008 is:

January 4, 2008                           May 2, 2008
February 1, 2008                          September 5, 2008
March 7, 2008                               October 3, 2008
April 4, 2008                               November 7, 2008
The meeting was called to order by the President, Ed Gallagher at 8:20 PM. Minutes of the previous meeting, as published in the Opal, were unanimously approved following motions by Lee Herrera and Pat Koko.

Treasurer’s report: Presented by outgoing treasurer, Barb Petry. There are now 61 members. There was one guest present; Jim Blake and his son Jimmy. Remember to pay your dues for the 2008 year. See Barb Petry if you are interested in obtaining engraved WSLC nametags.

Library: Gwyn Roland reported that the library now has two new items for members. One is Ornament Magazine for February 2009 which shows latest trends. Another new addition is a soft cover reference type book entitled "Agates" by Johann Zenz is a wonderful addition to the library. It includes an extensive display of beautifully photographed agates. The book itself is literally heavy, laden with colorful displays.

Midwest federation, and CGMA: no report at this time.

Stone of the month: Silver. Special thanks to members who made the effort to bring in and display their special items to share with the club. Jack Maher brought an assortment of several items which he designed and fabricated of silver. The items ranged from broaches and ear rings. Original designs included deer and fawn, shapes, and Egyptian theme items. Max and Alberta Schultz brought a full silver bar, which has increased in value over the years. Max also volunteered to be field trip coordinator for one field trip to start which the club is very appreciative of Tony’s involvement.

Tony Shannon brought in some of his recent handiwork. Most were primarily spheres. Some were on a base, and others polished to their natural shape. Most are of substantial size and a variety of stones. They were wonderful specimens. Thank you for allowing the group to see some of your time consuming work. These stones were discovered in rough form and brought back to his workshop for completion. Tony also volunteered to be field trip coordinator for one field trip to start which the club is very thankful for. He is enthusiastic and presented a written survey for members to complete to assess the club’s interest. Most trips will require travel so that is an important consideration for many members. He is willing to research and facilitate the trip to locations that members recommend. This position has been open, and the club is most appreciative of Tony’s involvement.

The February team met to plan the program for next month. The winner of the Split the Pot event was one of the guests Jimmy Blake, who was excited about his winnings.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 after motions by Leroy Petry and Tony Shannon, and unanimous approval.

That is the answer. The question is: What is Rockhound Jeopardy?

The game of Jeopardy, with categories related to club interests, was a first for the club, and great fun. Joanne Samuel was able to collect thought provoking questions in the following categories: Beads and Beading; Stone of the Month: In the OPAL; What is it?; and Lucky Lapidary. The “what is it” category, was identifying a specimen that was on display before the game for an up-close look, and then was again held up for the group to view. Joanne created and managed a great computer program to project the score board, the questions, and then the correct answers. The group was divided into three subgroups by counting off 1,2,3 and thus mixing up the group to interact with perhaps some new members. The rules were a little tricky at first with three groups, but then the groups seemed to develop a strategy to help their team win! By the end of the game, we learned to write down the answer (in the correct form) on the white boards that were provided. So, the ever sharp lapidary club members, not only learned the intricacies of the game but also maybe new facts, or brought to mind answers long forgotten or little used. We even had judges which included Joanne Samuel who referred to the submitted questions and answers, and experts Karen Dave’ and Pat Koko. Ed Gallagher, the moderator, kept the action alive and attempted to keep track of the team’s sequence, after perhaps having another team answer the questions.

It was no easy task to keep some semblance of order as members conferred, challenged, and noisily rang their bells to signify they knew the answer. He even provided some sound effects, with the Jeopardy tune. Erik Spande became the unofficial timekeeper. Lastly two teams were in a tie, with one ultimately winning the tie-breaker question and the special prizes were then distributed. Other prizes of small bags of hand made white chocolate candy were given to the runner up teams. Thanks to Joanne again for her culinary expertise. Overall, members seemed to get into the game spirit, and even accepted the judge’s decision. The game was played in a spirit of fun and cheerfulness. Boy, we sure have a lot of smart members out there!

IN MEMORIUM - ROBERT “BOB” FRANK

by Chuck O'Connell

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Robert “Bob” Frank on January 3, 2008 at the age of 72. Although not a member of the WSLC, Bob was known by rockhounds throughout the Chicagoland area as a nature lover and avid collector as well as a show promoter. He was active in several south side clubs and societies.
You haven’t heard from me in a while. Sorry. I don’t normally have much to tell you in terms of the website, but for once that has changed. The Midwest Federation website is in the process of being revamped. We’re doing away with the black heading and using the colors of the Midwest Federation logo, red and blue. I could use a better copy of the logo if anyone has one, but what I have will suffice for the time being.

My current plan is to publish the new site after all of the 2008 information has been updated. When that occurs (probably late January, early February) there are a number of changes that you will notice. The Calendar of Events lists the months of the year. When you click on the month, it will take you to a list of what is happening that month. If you have an activity you would like included, please e-mail the information to me. In the past, as the months passed, I would delete the old information. I decided that by setting up the calendar this way, the past information would still be available for those who needed to use it for reference.

The Museums have been separated according to state. Each state has its own page listing the museums located in that state. This will hopefully make things a little easier to find.

Programs have also been separated according to topics. I have included the order form on each page to make things a little easier.

New to the website is a Youth Page. This page contains various activities for our younger crowd. Dennis Westman and Michele Yamanaka have been extremely helpful in getting this set up.

The biggest change is Member Societies. Currently, each state has a page and the clubs and their information are listed on that page. When the new site is published, you will find that the clubs are listed on the state page and that the state directors are listed at the top, no separate page for state directors. Each club name is a link to its own page. I welcome any pictures or logos that you might want included. If you have a new website, please send me the link so that I can include it with your club information. My hope is to make it easier for you to find the information you’re looking for. As always, I welcome any comments or suggestions.

I can be reached at d-root@sbcglobal.net. I try to respond to each e-mail after I have made the changes/corrections asked. If you don’t hear from me, I may not have received your message. Please send it again.

We live on a fairly high hilltop in the Blue Ridge Mountains and my neighbors and I have been installing gates and barricades because we have burglars visiting our neighborhood. My wife and I were installing what is known up here as a Forest Service Gate which is a pipe barricade blocking access and were lifting the pipe section which is 4” in diameter heavy steel pipe and is 16’ long. You can see this coming, can’t you? Yes, I lifted with my back, not with my legs and suffered a muscle strain about two weeks ago which is slowly improving.

We all have been taught that we lift with our legs, not our back. But, the question is, do we always do what we know we should do? Lifting with your back is one example of the type of injury that many of us suffer needlessly. Let’s take a minute to think about other things that we do that are, at best, ill-conceived and, at worst, stupid.

Here not that far from the beginning of a new year, we should resolve that we will avoid those basic mistakes that we tend to make when we just do not stop to think. Let me give you a short check list.

- Are you using the right tool for the job? A knife is not a pry bar of a chisel
- Are your tools in good shape? Dull knives, chisels, saws and punches will only bring you grief. Hammers with loose handles or mushroomed heads are not reliable (read that as not safe)
- Some power tools are downright scary. All power saws will bite you. We all have horror stories involving folks that we know. We visited good friends in Scotland recently and could not find them. It seems that he was cutting a tree and when his wife walked up beside him and spoke, he swung around and slapped her head with his chain saw which was running. We can’t find out what finally happened but we know it was really bad.
- Are you faithfully using eye protection? I feel confident that a majority of you are not using safety glasses when you know you should.

I could turn this list into a book but, would you read it? I know I am “preaching to the choir” and you all know all the things that I am saying but the question is, are you willing to stop and think?

Remember: Safety First and Safety Foremost!
**I DREAM OF AFRICA**  
*by Lynn Dempsey*

I have been dreaming about Africa my whole life. It started when I was a kid watching the old Tarzan movies, and progressed in my teens with the *Born Free* trilogy books and imprinted me forever in adulthood with the movie “Out of Africa”.

All of the above have spurred me into my “greener” lifestyle and to this day, twenty years later, I still volunteer and teach at Brookfield Zoo.

Not everyone gets a chance to live one of their dreams, but I was able to do so in September by going on an animal picture safari to Kenya. And I was able to share this very amazing experience with my Brian, my cousin, and four very close friends.

I don’t have the words to describe the feelings, but they’re pretty close to how you feel when you complete a piece of jewelry; just how you imagined it. One sees miles, upon miles of open land, acacia trees, red dirt, heat, dust, elephants, giraffes, zebras, wildebeests, antelope, birds, crocodiles, ostrich, rhinos, lions, zebra, water buffalo, monkeys, cheetahs, and let’s not forget the leopard in the tree. It was FANTASTIC! And to all of those who are thinking: “You see that all the time in the zoo, why go all the way to Africa?” Let me assure you it’s not the same!

One thing we didn’t expect was the graciousness of the Kenyan People; be they the Kikuyu from the central part, the Masai from the south or the Luao from the west. Luao were always asking us if we knew Barack Obama (his father's tribe).

In central Kenya, we were invited to a driver’s family tea plantation where some of the local women cooked traditional style dishes for us to try. Their foods lean towards an East Indian influence, brought in by the Brits in 1800’s, with maize used as a main staple.

We enjoyed our political talks with the drivers on their upcoming elections and were saddened by their stories of the recent tribal violence brought on by these local events.

I wasn’t able to afford tanzanite, but it was a thrill to see so much of it. Unfortunately, I ruined some of the thrill for some of my fellow tourists by asking The Masai Tribe where they got their colorful beads. I knew, (thank you WSLC for all the continuing education at meetings), that they could not be from Kenya. The Masai Warrior replied they were from a Czechoslovakian catalog! Global Economy at its best!

I hope I haven’t bored you. In fact, we loved showing our animal pictures. Just ask Terri, Erv, Gary and Lorell.

I guess the moral of the story would be go live your dream whether its a trip or making a piece of jewelry. *Life is too short!*

Following are the stones/techniques of the month for 2008 along with the scheduled meeting dates. Mark your calendars, plan your vacations around them:

- **February**: Topaz  
  February 22, 2008
- **March**: Kunzite  
  March 28, 2008
- **April**: Gem Trees  
  April 25, 2008
- **May**: Tanzanite  
  May 16, 2008
- **September**: Scrimshaw  
  September 26, 2008
- **October**: Chain Making  
  October 24, 2008
- **November**: Glass Fusing  
  November 28, 2008

Dates and location are subject to change (remember the May 2007 meeting). Any changes will be communicated.

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**SHOP TIP**  
*by Don Ashbury*

Is it real, or is it Memorex?? Ever wonder if the stone you are looking at is a CZ or a diamond? If the stone is loose, turn it upside down on its table and slide it over a think black like on a piece of paper. When looking straight down through a CZ, you will see a circle in the center of the stone. A diamond won’t do this.

To differentiate between citrine and topaz, clean the stone. Then, using a toothpick, put a drop of water on the table of the stone. The water will form a high bubble on the real topaz. On quartz, the water flattens out.

Reprinted from the the August 2005 edition of *The Backbender’s Gazette*
STONE OF THE MONTH: TOPAZ
by Erik Spande

The February Stone of the Month is topaz, which is a silicate mineral of aluminum and fluorine: Al$_2$SiO$_4$(F,OH)$_2$. Topaz has an orthorhombic crystallographic form, with crystals frequently terminating in pyramidal faces. Topaz can form in coarse (massive) well-formed crystals that have a habit (or form) similar to tourmaline, but it can also be granular (small grained). It has perfect basal cleavage, which means that it is easy to cleave the stone such that it results in a reproducible smooth face. Fracture is conchoidal, breaking into uneven fragments. Pure topaz is transparent, but impurities result in topaz that is white, gray, green, pink, or reddish-yellow in color with clarity ranging from transparent to translucent. Typical topaz is wine or yellow to yellow brown.

Topaz is one of the hardest minerals in nature and is the hardest silicate mineral with a hardness of 8 (on a 10 scale with 10 being diamond). It has a specific gravity of approximately 3.5 (for reference, quartz has a specific gravity of 2.65), and a vitreous (or glassy) luster. Topaz does luminesce golden yellow in short-wave ultraviolet (UV) light and cream color in long-wave UV light. The best field indicators to identify topaz are crystalline habit, density, hardness, and color.

Topaz is frequently associated with silica-rich igneous rock such as granite or rhyolites. It can form as pegmatite in granite or rhyolites. It can form as pegmatite in high-temperature quartz veins, or in cavities associated with fluorine rich rhyolitic rock. Gem topaz in the Urals, Russia and Minas Gerias, Brazil. A well-grained rock, in high-temperature quartz veins, or in cavities associated with fluorine rich rhyolitic rock. Gem topaz is frequently associated with silica-rich igneous rock

Topaz can be mistaken for other gems. Its common yellow-brown color makes it easy to confuse with the less valuable citrine, which is frequently sold as topaz. When the topaz is blue it is confused with tourmaline. The color of topaz can be changed by various treatments. Brown-yellow topaz turns pink when heated, and the color change is permanent. Pale yellow topaz turns white when heated. Topaz turns to a pure light blue, dark blue, or electric blue if irradiated. A thin layer of titanium oxide (applied via vapor deposition) turns the color iridescent, and this treated topaz is sold as ‘mystic topaz’.


MEET YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS:

Clebit (Clete) E. Davis

Name: Clete Davis
What year did you join the WSCL: 2006
Other club or society affiliations? American Society of Plumbing Engineers, American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Aurora Sportsmen's Club, Beloit Rifle Club, Blackhawk Sportsmen's Club.
Interest/Hobbies: Lapidary, rockhounding, photography, classical music, gourmet cooking, archery, hunting, fishing and target shooting
Favorite Rock: Nephrite jade and fire agate
Favorite Tool: my knife, camera, bow and arrow
What book is on your nightstand: Adventures of Sherlock Holmes
Is your significant other in the hobby or do they humor you? She likes to help me look for them and wear them
Do you have a workshop? Don’t I wish!
One thing you can’t live without: my kitchen
Favorite food: real BBQ & fresh fruit
Favorite pastime: target shooting & cooking
Least favorite thing: laundry
What is your profession: Mechanical/Acoustical Engineer (I design performance spaces like opera houses and concert halls), Licensed home inspector, Professional violinist and violin teacher
One thing no one knows about you: absolutely hate centipedes
Weirdest thing in your home: my “junk” room
Biggest collection in your home: old cookbooks and antique cherry bowls
One thing you have from your childhood: my teddy bear from when I was 2 years old
Favorite TV Shows? Good Eats, Modern Marvels, Dirty Jobs, Mythbusters and Monster Question
Your involvement in the WSCL: Just a day to day member and a salsa contributor
Favorite thing about the WSCL: the people and the great programs
Least favorite thing about the WSCL: haven’t found anything yet
Personal Motto: Illegitimum non carborundum!

EDITOR’S NOTE: Please let me know if any of your personal information has changed in the last year so the WSCL member directory can be updated. You may call, email or snail mail me with any updates.

thank you - Mary Prosek, Opal Editor
THANK YOU FROM THE YELLOW RIBBON SUPPORT GROUP

by Mary Prosek

I am happy to report that the collection of DVD’s to give to the Yellow Ribbon Support Group was a success. A friend of mine at work heard me talking about it and suggested I do the same at work. So I proceeded to put out collection boxes in the lunchrooms.

I was soon overwhelmed with boxes of donations, most of them new. Some people even donated complete seasons of television shows. All in all, I had about 200 that my daughter and I dropped off at the Palatine Police Station one cold Saturday in January.

The wonderful thank you note is shown to the left. Pat McCoy tells me they are also collecting small Teddy Bears and Beanie Babies that the soldiers give the local children to foster trust and friendship. Let me know if you have any. I have a feeling I am going to be a regular over at Yellow Ribbon.

PETEerson PROJECT NO. 61 “Pendant with set cab and Dangles”

(Originally printed in the March 1978 Edition of The Opal)

by Harry E. Peterson

Materials Required: 22 Gauge silver sheet
Bezel Wire
30 X 40 oval cab
5 small jump rings

Step 1: Make bezel for cab

Step 2: Make 5 dangles. First drill a small hole in sheet silver where top of dangle is to be, then saw outline. File and sand. Dome slightly and lead block. Make one, the use it for a pattern.

Step 3: Paste design to silver sheet. Center punch and drill small holes in the five places for dangles. Also drill holes and saw out the six shaded areas. Then saw out the outline, file, and sand edges. Remove paper by soaking in warm water.

Step 4: Chase lines, then raise the circles and the ends of the curlicues with ball-pointed chasing tools on lead block. Straighten blank and buff top side.

Step 5: Solder bezel to blank. After pickling, buff entire piece. Bend tab back to form bail for chain. Set cab. Attach dangles with jump rings.

Copies of the below pattern can be sent via email or copied on plain white paper. Please contact Mary Prosek for this.
WSLC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MEETING LOCATION:  THE ABBEY: 407 West St. Charles Road, Elmhurst, IL 60126
Abbey public phone: 630-530-9874

GENERAL MEETINGS:
Doors open at 7:00 p.m.
The meeting begins at 8:00 p.m.
Next Meeting: Friday, January 25, 2008

WSLC BOARD MEETINGS:
The Abbey
The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.
Next Meeting: Friday, February 1, 2008

UPCOMING SHOWS AND EVENTS

March 29 - Monroe, WI - “38th Annual Mineral, Gem & Fossil Show” - The Badger Lapidary & Geological Society - Monroe High School - 1600 26th Street - Monroe, WI - Saturday & Sunday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Dealers, speakers, educational exhibits, gold panning, mineral tent demonstrations, hourly door prizes, videos and a “fish pond” for the kids.

March 12-13: Des Plaines, IL - Des Plaines Valley Geological Society - “43rd Annual Show” - Des Plaines Park District Leisure Center, 222 Birch St. Sat 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Jewelry, gem, fossil, rock and mineral dealers. Live lapidary arts demonstrations, silent auction, educational exhibits, kids’ room, raffles and door prizes. Contact Lois Zima at (847) 298-4653 or Jeanine N. Mielecki, jaynine9@aol.com.

Lapidary School:  The Lapidary School is currently in session with a 5 week session each for Silversmithing and Cutting and Polishing Stones for Jewelry.

Classes for the Spring will begin the first or second week of April and will include Silversmithing on Monday’s, Cutting & Polishing Stones for Jewelry on Tuesday’s, Wirewrapping on Wednesday’s, and Beading on Thursday’s.

Classes are held at: Crestview Park Center - 245 E. Crestview Ave - Lower Level - Elmhurst, IL 60126. The center is located just East of York and a little North of I290/Lake St.  A complete schedule along with dates and costs should be available on the Elmhurst Park District website in the next several weeks. The web address is: www.epd.org.

More information can be found by calling the Wagner Community Center at: (630) 993-8901

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Something to think about:

I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality.... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word.  ~Martin Luther King, Jr.

Abraham Lincoln needs no marble shaft to perpetuate his name; his words are the most enduring monument, and will forever live in the hearts of the people.  ~Osborn H. Oldroyd